

The Mining Journal,

RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL GAZETTE

FORMING A COMPLETE RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF ALL PUBLIC COMPANIES.

No. 1593.—VOL. XXXVI.

London, Saturday, March 3, 1866.

STAMPED.....SIXPENCE.
UNSTAMPED.....FIVEPENCE.

M. R. JAMES CROFTS, SHAREBROKER,
No. 1, FINCH LANE, CORNHILL.

(Established 33 years.)

IMPERIAL WELSH SLATE AND SLAB COMPANY (Limited).—The following information on the management (elicted at the request of a very large investor), on the financial and future results of the above company, is important, and is recommended by Mr. CROFTS to attentive perusal:—The Imperial slate vein is exactly the same as the well-known Treslin vein, in the St. Brid's Quarry, and has been traced the whole distance from one to the other. There is no other vein yet discovered that produces this description of slate and colour, and it is a well-known fact that the slab readily sells for 20s. per ton more than any other, and the quantity is inexhaustible. The quarries will be worked in less than two months, and the estimate is that the slab can be produced and delivered at the place of shipment at 18s. per ton, and the smallest size sells for 40s., and the largest 60s., to 80s. per ton. The first year's dividend of 5 per cent. will, no doubt, have to be paid by the vendor, as it will require about that time to place the quarry in perfect order for profitable working. In the second year, considerably more than 5 per cent. may be expected by the shareholders; and when the quarry is in full operation, not less than 25 per cent. or upwards will be obtained.

* PROSPECTUSES forwarded on application, and information given on all details required. SAMPLES OF THE SLATES may also be inspected at Mr. CROFTS' office.

BRITISH MINES.—EAST LOVELL is now the cheapest tin share in the market; dividend, as usual, next month. NORTH TRESKERNY in good demand, and safe. Other tins to BUY.—Chiverton Moor, Great North Laxey, Vor, Tinctor, Ding Dong.

* HOLLYBUSH COAL.—Business in these shares (all being allotted) at a premium.

LILY QUARRIES SHARES (Limited).—Business in them, at a premium.

Bankers: The National Bank of Scotland, Finch-lane.

M. R. JAMES LANE, No. 44, THREADNEEDLE STREET,
LONDON, E.C.

JAMES LANE has FOR SALE at nett prices:—20 Bedford United, 26s.; 5 Buller, 25s.; 25 Creb, 2s. 6d.; 10 Chiverton, 4s.; 40 Caldbeck Fells, 2s. 6d.; 20 Chontales, 4s.; 20 East Carn Brea, 4s.; 20 East Grenville, 2s. 6d.; 20 East Rosswane, 3s. 6d.; 50 Frontino, 2s. 6d.; 50 Great Buoy; 50 Great North Laxey, 2s. 6d.; 5 Great Laxey, 2s. 6d.; 10 Great South Chiverton, 7s. 6d.; 50 Lady Bertha, 1s.; 5 Great Vor, 3s. 6d.; 10 Great Wheal Lovell, 2s. 6d.; 50 Prince of Wales, 5s. 6d.; 20 South Darren, 2s.; 20 Rose Consols, 2s.; 20 South Darren, 2s.; 20 St. Just United, 2s.; 5 Speare Moor, 2s. 6d.; 20 South Condurrow, 3s. 6d.; 20 Tolivadden; 10 Trencrom, 2s. 6d.; 10 Fowthorpe, 1s.; 50 West Wheal Vor, 1s.

M. R. LELEAN (Member of the Mining Exchange) BUYS and SELLS all descriptions of ENGLISH and FOREIGN STOCKS and SHARES, INSPECTS MINES, and TRANSACTS all the usual BUSINESS of a STOCK and SHAREDEALER, and parties may rely upon him for sound advice and punctuality in all his engagements.—11, Royal Exchange, London, E.C.

M. R. LELEAN'S STOCK, SHARE, AND FINANCE REGISTER for March (on Wednesday next) should be consulted by all who wish to make safe and profitable investments, giving from 10 to 15 per cent., or to view the state of the market for the preceding thirty days. Single copies, 6d. each; annual subscription, 5s. Published monthly, and sold by Messrs. Pott's and Son, 14 and 15, Royal Exchange, London, E.C.

M. R. LELEAN recommends the immediate purchase of Great Laxey, Central Snailbeach, Rosswane Consols, Trelyon, Wheal Margery, East Laxey, and Great South Chiverton.

Mr. LELEAN refers correspondents to his remarks in this day's Journal, p. 123.

11, Royal Exchange, London, E.C., March 2, 1866.

G. RICE, SHAREDEALER, 5, COWPER'S COURT, BIRCHIN LANE, LONDON (24 years' experience), Member of the Mining Exchange, DEALS IN MINING SHARES at close market prices of the day, either as BUYER or SELLER, for cash or account.

The following are the latest dealing prices:—

Latest prices:—
Chiverton Moor £44.—£7.
Chiverton 8s. 8s.
Chontales 4s. 4s.
Clyfford Amalgamated 1s. 1s.
East Grenville 3s. 3s.
East Caron 7s. 7s.

George Rice's recent recommendations of several mines for a great rise in price have been fully confirmed; there are a few others still overlooked, which he can confidently recommend for a great and immediate rise.

G. Rice is not in the habit of publishing his views upon the merits or demerits of the various mines now before the public, but he is always prepared to advise his clients when to buy or sell to their advantage, and in many mines he is prepared to share profit or loss upon his advice.

Money advanced on mining shares.
Bankers: Bank of London.—References.

W. I. L. L. I. A. M. W. A. R. D., 28, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C.

W. I. L. L. I. A. M. S. E. W. A. R. D., 19, THROGMORTON STREET, LONDON, E.C.

T. HOMAS HAMILTON, STOCK AND SHAREBROKER, 1, CROWN CHAMBERS, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C.

(Member of the Mining Exchange.)

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.
MESSRS. WARD AND JACKMAN, STOCK AND SHAREDEALERS, have REMOVED from 2, Adam's-court to No. 1, CUSHION COURT, OLD BROAD STREET, CITY, E.C.

Bankers: London and Westminster, Lombury.

M. R. T. ROSEWARNE, 81, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. has BUSINESS to TRANSACT, in the FOLLOWING MINES, for cash or time on:—

Bedford United, East Gunnsdale, East Carn Brea, Caldbeck Fells, Chiverton Moor, East Russell, East Caron, East Grenville.

Bryn Gwlog, East Carn Brea, North Treskerby, Frontino and Bolivia, Gwlog United, Hallenbeagle, Hington, Lady Bertha, Great North Laxey, Great South Chiverton, Great Wheal Vor, Great Laxey, and West Chiverton, for time, below present market prices.

An OFFER WANTED for Bedol-Aur, St. Day United, Rosewarne United, and Central Minera.

WANTED TO BUY:—Wheal Agar and West Basset, at market price.

T. Rosewarne can recommend three mines safe for a great rise within the next three months, and has no objection to guarantee half loss for half profit.

March 2, 1866. Bankers: Bank of London.

SHARES WANTED in the FOLLOWING MINES State number and lowest price:—

East Basset, Copper Hill, Kitty (Levant), North Dolcoath.

St. Ives Consols, South Frances.

Margaret, 77, Old Broad-street, and Mining Exchange, London, E.C.

M. R. WALTER TREGELLAIS, 122, BISHOPSGATE STREET WITHIN, continues to deal at close market prices in all DIVIDEND and good sound PROGRESSIVE MINES, either for cash or the account.

W. TREGELLAIS calls the attention of his friends to the Taquari Gold Mine (Limited), Brazil, in 50,000 shares of £2 each. Deposit £5 per share on application. No call to be made at a less interval than three months, or to exceed 5s. per share, neither is it anticipated that more than £1 per share in all will ever be required. Shares are largely subscribed for, and W. TREGELLAIS has only a very limited number for distribution amongst his friends at par.

BUSINESS in Wheal Basset and Grylls.

B. RITISH AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT.—Mr. THOMAS SPARGO, 224, and 225, GRESHAM HOUSE, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C., TRANSACTS EVERY DESCRIPTION of BUSINESS in the PURCHASE and SALE of SHARES in BANKS, CANALS, MINES, RAILWAYS, BRIDGES, INSURANCES, and ALL OTHER DESCRIPTIONS of BRITISH and FOREIGN STOCK.

Mr. SPARGO has 20 years' experience of mining, ten of which he was engaged in practical mining, and ten years he has transacted business in mining shares and stock, at 224 and 225, Gresham House, Old Broad-street, City, E.C.

Bankers: Bank of London.

M. R. GEORGE BUDGE, No. 4, ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDINGS, LONDON, E.C. (Established 18 years), has FOR SALE MINING and OTHER SHARES, at nett prices, as usual.

STOCK EXCHANGE SECURITIES.

Hallways. Banks. English Funds.
Financial. Foreign Funds. Discount.
Steamship. Loan. Docks.
Ironworks. Gas. Water Works.
Insurance. Telegraph. Hotel.
Marine Insurance. Land. Irrigation.
Foreign Mines. Cornish Mines. Dewon Mines.

And other public companies.

M. R. PETER WATSON, STOCK AND SHAREDEALER, begs to state that every information respecting any of these companies may be had on personal application, or by letter, as to PURCHASES and SALES, with advice as to the most desirable investments.

From the close proximity of his offices to the Stock Exchange, and also the Mining Exchange, he is enabled to act with promptitude on all orders entrusted to him in the PURCHASE or SALE of every description of stocks or shares, at nett prices for cash or fortnightly settlements.

TELEGRAPHIC MESSAGES of customers to BUY or SELL in any of the above companies punctually attended to, at nett prices for cash or half-monthly settlements, at the closest possible market prices of the day.

Twenty-one years' experience.

(Two in Cornwall and Nineteen in London.)

Bankers: The Union Bank of London, and the Alliance Bank.

The present is an unusually favourable period for the investment of capital.

A SELECTED LIST of Railways, Banks, Financial, Foreign Funds, Steamships, Foreign and Cornish and Devon Mines, &c., sent on application, with special recommendations as to investments, &c., on the distinct understanding that any business resulting through his information or advice may be done through him.

PETER WATSON, Stock and Sharedealer, 79, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

M. R. EDWARD COOKE, STOCK AND MINE SHAREDEALER, 2, CROWN CHAMBERS, THREADNEEDLE STREET, AND MINING EXCHANGE, LONDON, E.C.

Prospects, with interesting particulars relating to the Chontales Gold and Silver Mining Company's property, sent free by post upon application, the shares in which are deserving of the attention of anyone having capital to invest, as there is every probability of their going to a very high premium. EDWARD COOKE deals in those shares, and of Frontino and Bolivia, either as BUYER or SELLER, at market prices; also in Foreign Lands and Mineral Rights Purchase shares.

SELLER of 1 Foreign Lands and Mineral Rights share. DEALER in Nevada Investment shares. Every information afforded relative to the above.

Satisfactory references given in any town in the United Kingdom.

Prospectuses of the Hollybush Colliery and Coke Company, and also of the Imperial Welsh Slate and Slab Company (Limited) sent free on application.

March 2, 1866. Bankers: Alliance Bank, Lothbury.

M. R. FREDERICK WILLIAM MANSELL, STOCK AND MINING SHAREDEALER, 26, THROGMORTON STREET, and MINING EXCHANGE, LONDON.

Bankers: London Joint-Stock Bank.

JOHN RISLEY, 32, LOMBARD STREET, and MINING EXCHANGE, LONDON, E.C. has SPECIAL BUSINESS in East Grenville, Wheal Buller, and West Caron.

M. R. J. W. HUTCHINSON, 78, OLD BROAD-STREET, and MINING EXCHANGE, LONDON, E.C., DEALER in MINING and OTHER SHARES, also in those temporarily unsaleable.

Bankers: City Bank.

M. R. J. B. REYNOLDS, 3, CROWN COURT, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C., DEALER in BRITISH and FOREIGN MINES, RAILWAYS, BANKS, &c., and all securities dealt in on the Stock Exchange.

Mines—Business, cash or time.

Chontales. Clifford Amalgamated. Central Snailbeach.
West Sharp Tor. Great North Laxey. North Chiverton.
West Caron. Hollybush. Dale (Limited).
East Caron. East Callington. Frontino (Limited).
Great Vor. New Treburt.

Mr. REYNOLDS does not advertise shares for sale at fixed prices, but nevertheless is prepared to deal on as reasonable terms as those who do.

Mr. REYNOLDS has also business in the financial and other companies, including Credit Foncier and Mobilier, cash or time.—March 2, 1866.

M. R. WILLIAM MARLBOROUGH, 1, GREAT ST. HELEN'S, BISHOPSGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C. (Established 11 years), has FOR SALE THE FOLLOWING SHARES, at nett prices:—

70 North Downs, 3s. 3d. 25 Harriet. 50 Central Snailbeach.
100 Gt. North Laxey, £2 1/2. 50 North Chiverton. 100 Chontales, £2 1/2 prem.
30 No. Trexerby, £3 6s 3d. 80 Frontino, 3s. 9d. prem. 75 Caldbeck Fells, 2s.
20 Chontales Moor, £6 1/2. 15 East Lovell, £10 1/2. 50 North Croft, 17s. 6d.
25 East Grenville, £3 16 3/4. 10 Tincroft, £1 5s. 5 Wheal Rose, £1 15 1/2.
50 Pat Consols, 12s. 6d. 2 Basset, £85 1/2. 20 Great Fortune, £2 1/2.
10 Stray Park, £6 1/2. 50 North Dolcoath, 9s. 35 Carn Camborne, 3s.
10 North Basset, 7s. 6d. 40 Gt. So. Tolgas, 22s. 6d. 50 Creb, 20s. 6d.
15 East Russell, £2 1/2. 20 Marko Valley, £4 6s 3d. 25 Rosewarne Ltd., 14s. 6d
20 South Darren, £3. 80 So. Condurrow, 3s. 6d. 5 East Basset, £2 10.
30 Wheal Emma, £1 1/2. 100 Prince of Wales, 5s. 3d. 20 Wheal Grenville, £3 6 1/2.
3 Providence, £2 3/4. 50 Lady Bertha, 10s. 6d. 20 Gwast, 3s. 6d.
50 South Grenville, 5s. 3d. 5 West Caron, £7 1/2. 45 Drake Walls, 17s.
5 West Caron, £7 1/2. 15 East Caron, £1 1/2. 60 East Rosewarne, £1 1/2.
10 Cook's Kitchen, £4 1/2. 5 North Basset, £1 1/2. 2 Wheal Seton, £2 07 1/2.
50 Rosewarne Con., 2s. 6d. 1 Foreign Lands and Mineral Rights.

M. ATTHEW GREENE, STOCK AND SHAREDEALER, ST. MICHAEL'S HOUSE, CORNHILL, LONDON, always prepared to deal at close prices in mining, bank, and railway shares, &c.

Business in Chontales, Clifford Amalgamated, Frontino and Bolivia, East Grenville, Great Laxey, and Great North Laxey.

Money advanced on mining shares.

Bankers: Imperial Bank.

March 2, 1866. Office hours, Ten till Four.

NANGILES.—WANTED TO PURCHASE, a FEW SHARES for cash, at £8 per share.—Sellers will please state number to HENRY GOULD SHARP, 32, Poultry, London, E.C.

EAST CHIVERTON.—WANTED TO PURCHASE, a FEW SHARES for cash.—Sellers will please state number and lowest price to HENRY GOULD SHARP, 32, Poultry, London, E.C.

GREAT CARON.—WANTED TO PURCHASE, FIFTY or ONE HUNDRED SHARES for cash.—Sellers will please state number and lowest price to HENRY GOULD SHARP, 32, Poultry, London, E.C.

EAST PROVIDENCE.—WANTED TO PURCHASE, ONE HUNDRED SHARES for cash.—Sellers will please state number and lowest price for cash to HENRY GOULD SHARP, 32, Poultry, London, E.C.

M. R. J. P. ENDEAN, SHAREDEALER, &c., of 25 years' experience, DEALS, and NEGOCIATES the SALE and PURCHASE of SHARES in Mines, Banks, Hotels, Water-works, Bridges, Canals, and every other marketable security, at nett prices, for cash or the fortnightly settling.

5, Finsbury Chambers, London-wall, E.C.

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN MINING AGENCY, AND GENERAL INVESTMENT OFFICES, No. 5, FINSBURY CHAMBERS, LONDON WALL, LONDON, E.C.

Original Correspondence.

ON SLATE QUARRIES, AND THEIR MANAGEMENT—No. I.

SIR.—By the "management" of a concern we are given to understand that that office is held by a man who thoroughly knows his position, possesses general and practical knowledge, also calculation, firmness, steadiness, honesty, education, as well as other requisite qualities;—the above qualifications are as necessary in a slate quarry manager as they are in any public officer in England, as the manager is the principal in the quarry, so it is on his hands (if not interfered with) to make it either a remunerative or a losing property. If he is an inexperienced man, of course nothing can be expected but the latter; although he may mislead the proprietors for some time with his promises and flattering reports, still time will soon show that their money has been wastefully thrown away. I will endeavour to make a few remarks on the management of slate quarries, taking for granted that the reader will agree with me as to the qualifications of a manager, of which the most important is a knowledge of the slate stratification in different parts of the country; and to possess this information it requires something more than reading geological books, &c., as there is no mode of really acquiring this knowledge about the slate strata but by continual study, attention, and experience; as it has its different positions, faults, peculiar dykes, upsets, cleavage, foot-joints, carb-joints, back-joints, slant-joints, roof-joints, heels, stripes, spots, colour, such as green, blue, pink, red, grey, and black, &c.; as well as spars, or a mixture of spar, lashes, or unseal joints, irregular joints, posts, tunnelling, sinking, opening, top clearing, and other terms that are used in slate quarries. All of these peculiarities have their signs and relations; a good judgment of the said can only be gained by experience, perseverance, constant watching, and striving to gain the required knowledge. To be able to form a proper opinion of the different slate concerns, with the above information, and an outward sign of the slate strata, the possessor may arrive at an accurate conclusion as to the prospect of the property under his notice, and, as a general rule, with attention and calculation a trustworthy report can be formed, in favour of the property or otherwise to condemn it. The same instruction will assist the owner to form the most judicious mode of proving grounds and slate property;—experience in this is most important for gain or loss in future working.

I intended describing a few new slate properties, and the practical mode of trials or proofs, but I must leave this subject until another opportunity, as it requires more time and writing than I can at present afford. I may, however, remark that I can name several places where thousands of pounds have been spent on "trials," such as sinks, tunnels, top clearing, and openings, when so many hundreds would have been sufficient to make a satisfactory proof either in favour or the contrary. I am sorry to say it is an easy matter to point out expensive trials which have been opened out by the side of the slate stratification, and in the midst of the shale, in a situation that any man with but a limited idea of the slate strata would at once pronounce them as fruitless, and their prosecution waste of money.

We find some openings on the slate strata of the Cambrian veins entire failures. This happens in consequence of deficient knowledge, experience, and minute examinations of the ground, which in itself would convince that the prospect was doubtful and perhaps hopeless. I will give an instance of this mistake, which occurred a few years since not far from Carnarvon. A gentleman, who possessed more self-confidence than knowledge, visited the different slate localities, and, in his own estimation, gained in a few months every information and instruction appertaining to the slate properties; with these great pretensions, he took a "tack-note" on different grants. He remarked to the writer that slate quarries in Wales were the most neglected he had ever seen, especially in the management, as he had gained in a few months more knowledge of the geological formation, as well as the most practical mode of working quarries, than any man in England or Wales; as he knew the faults of different quarries, and could sketch the unseen stratification, and know whether it was good or not, as well as being able to tell what each man would meet with in working his bargain. He could also correctly say what would be the produce of each slate bargain for a week, month, twelve months, up to 50 years; also how many tons of rubbish there would be in a certain piece of ground, and how many slate blocks. He could also make a calculation of the profit and loss for the term of lease of 31 years. He could also bring his concern to pay more profit than all the great quarries in Wales. He had drawn all his plans so accurately, according to his ideas, that he was able to know what each gallery and bargain were doing daily, whilst he sat at ease in his drawing-room over his wine. With these blind pretensions, he managed to form a Limited Liability Company, in 30,000*l.*, in London. He had hardly completed this, when he disposed of another for many thousands of pounds, which, according to his reports and plans, would be the most lucrative speculation ever brought before the public. So a large amount of money was spent in placing things in first-class order; but it very soon appeared to be easier to form plans, &c., of the Welsh hills than to get at their produce, which proved to be so in this man's case, as he found his maps and plans of no value to get the slates. Notwithstanding his failure in making the above to pay according to his reports, he brought a third before the public, and, with his plans of operation and returns, succeeded in persuading that time and money would bring plenty of produce. His flourishing reports were signed by local agents for a trifling sum of money, who could neither read or write the English language. Then directors were named, and a manager appointed—a shrewd man of business, but who had never seen a slate quarry before, though, of course, in his own idea was clever enough to understand every branch of working a quarry, and could see further than a dozen of the best quarry managers. Their capital was placed in the bank, operations commenced, steam-engines erected, top soil removed, tunnels driven in different directions, money spent by thousands, but with returns only sufficient to say there were a few slates in two years made, which amounted to 30*l.* or 40*l.* The promises failing, capital spent, and lost to the shareholders, this concern, like the former, was discontinued, after spending at least 10,000*l.* to 15,000*l.* It seems strange that such men go so contrary to their reports; however, it is the case, and such a man as this is a ruin to the Welsh slate speculation; but he is gone where he can make no more mischief, and his concerns are a monument of his ignorance. Another instance of similar character happened in North Wales: a slate quarry was worked by a private company of English gentlemen, who appointed their own countrymen as manager, one entirely inexperienced in all business matters, but who in his own estimation was a most competent person to manage slate quarries, and knew all about the planning and working of them, and in four or five months understood as much of them as any of the most practical quarrymen. He wrote most hopeful reports to the proprietors, as well as an account of payments and returns for each month, and, of course, was considered by his employers as a most valuable servant. He was allowed a good salary, as well as pony and conveyance, and rooms. All went on smoothly so far as writing goes, but he soon found it easier in his case to promise than perform, and after eight years of promises it was found too hard a task to get sufficient produce to meet one-third of the expenses incurred in the quarry per month. The returns per annum would not average more than 50*l.* to 60*l.*, so the proprietors were losing heavily yearly, which led to the dismissal of this man, but not before a large amount of the shareholders' money had been lost. He was a kind-hearted man, but more adapted to repeat Shakespeare than to manage the Welsh hills. He, like the other, is laid in oblivion, as well as his maps and plans. The dissatisfied shareholders called on the writer to report upon the quarry, which was done to the effect that a large amount of the convertible slate rock was destroyed and thrown into the rubbish heap; also, that a great number of splendid slates could be made from that quarry under practical and judicious management. Upon hearing this, they requested the writer to place the concern in a proper working order, so as to make more slates, which was done, and in a short time the sale of slates from this very quarry amounted from 70,000*l.* to 75,000*l.*, and the concern is still doing well, and shows every prospect of remunerative returns.

By a few further remarks, the reader will clearly detect the difference between the pretension of knowing and the actual knowledge of working a slate quarry; the labour and years of experience it takes the latter so as to be capable of forming a safe and judicious opinion and calculation of the prospects before him; as well as the most advisable plan of proving and opening the ground, from the different signs and formation of the property, so as to arrive at an accurate conclusion of the prospects before expending even a limited portion of the capital. A practical man will soon be able to say whether he would invest his money in an undertaking or not, for he generally examines very minutely into the future, and if satisfied will not hesitate in taking an interest in the same, if all the other arrangements of the concern are satisfactory. As to the former class of men, with the pretension of knowledge, they form their opinions, and will be guided by their own judgment, which, of course, will not stand testing and questioning; therefore, what are we to understand by such, but self-interest, good office, and salary, for when these kind of men find their service at an end their interest in the undertaking will be offered for sale at a reduced price. This at once shows their motive in taking the interest. As an instance of such a character, the writer was asked to make a report on a slate quarry, by a party from Manchester, who intended investing 10,000*l.* in the concern upon having a favourable report from me: the manager knowing this, and having a large interest in the quarry, made several remarks as to the future prospects, the remunerative returns if he continued to increase the openings, and upon my making a favourable report he would present me with 300*l.* However, the writer made the report, which saved these capitalists their money, as the place was not worthy to spend their capital in, for which they gladly paid 10*l.* 10*s.*, and the manager gave his 300*l.*; but not long after the same manager met with a party who had some orphans' money to invest, and by the report, &c., which he had written in flowing and flattering terms, he induced them to spend 10,000*l.* of this money, which was entirely lost, as the quarry was never opened on the proper slate strata; so the man left this country, and no one has since attempted to work the quarry, as there is not the least prospect of any returns from it, although a large amount of money has been thrown away upon the property. This instance shows the necessity of acquiring general information, to prevent misguidance and loss, and how important it is to gain the knowledge and practice in opening new concerns, as well as properly working old ones. Such can never be attained but by experience, study, and minute attention to the different operations and signs before alluded to.

In opening a new quarry it is of the greatest importance to be certain of the slate strata, then to lay out proper and judicious plans, and to study the most economical way of working and forming the quarry, and to be careful not to spend 10*l.* where 5*l.* would be sufficient to do the same work. A practical man will be able to form a proper judgment of the value of each branch of the works, as well as the formation and situation of the veins, where to commence top clearing, and to be careful not to deposit the soil on the slate rock; also to study the dip and formation of the strata. This is the key to the future working, next the back-joints, foot-joints, slants, &c. The joints and dip are so formed that by proper commencement and contrivance the top soil can be opened, entered, and removed at half the expense than if it had been done contrary, or in a different way. The joints are either bevel, round, or square, and what are termed back-joints. These, with foot-joints or curbs, may be a hundred per cent. in favour of top clear-

ing if the works are so planned as to take advantage of the facilities already formed by Nature. The top soil is removed generally at so much per ton or yard, and so much poundage on all slates made. Without being practical, a great error may be committed in opening and removing top rocks, for in many instances we find where foot-joints are frequent and regular, and back-joints formed, many second and inferior slates can be made from near the surface; but if the price per yard or ton is fixed that the men can make more wages by carrying all the blocks and rubbish over the embankment, they will, of course, do so. This also shows the necessity of possessing good judgment of the quality and formation of the rock. A poundage or a price should be given for all different sized slates, and a fixed sum per ton for all slate blocks the men are able to procure. With this the manager will be able to calculate the payment for slates made, also what the produce will realise in the market. When the top is removed, and galleries formed, the quarry is either increasing in slate made, or, to the contrary, proving different to reports and expectations. We often hear it said that a large amount of money must be spent before the quarry can be expected to make returns of slates. On this point I most certainly differ, as all the perpendicular slate strata ought to make good returns in 12 or 18 months, provided from 50 to 60 men are employed; with this number, judiciously looked after, an extensive opening and clearing can be done. When this is effected, slates ought to be made, and will be by a practical manager.

Tops are removed at a set price per ton, or square yard, of 6*l.* to 1*l.* 6*s.* per yard, and an average of 1*l.* per yard; lose end, at 2*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per yard; opening, from 3*s.* to 9*s.* per yard; tunnelling, from 30*s.* to 80*s.* per yard; and sinking, from 30*s.* to 100*s.* per yard. These are the principal items of quarry operations, but independent of machinery, &c. This shows the reader that a concern can be worked for a small amount in comparison to the enormous sum that are said to be necessary in opening new quarries.

When a quarry is properly formed and cleared, slate making ought to be the principal point, as without this it is a positive loss of money: all the outlay must be for the purpose of getting slate blocks. A practical manager will without delay see that no blocks are destroyed by the bar-gain takers. By careful attention thousands of pounds worth of slates may be profitably manufactured from the upper part of the quarry. He will also with due attention to the produce and formation of the rock be able to arrive at a proper conclusion as to the value of top clearing, openings, sinking, and slate making, to fix a proper poundage on all slate bargains, and to convert all that is good to profitable account. Further, practical knowledge consists in being capable to value the different qualities of slates, the expense of making, as well as the carriage to the different markets, and to calculate on the material as to the margin for profit. By this he would see whether the inferior portion of the top rock and other parts of the quarry would pay for making and leave a profit. The success of the concern entirely depends on its produce, but if such produce that is capable of being profitably converted into slates, whether from the top or bottom of the quarry, is destroyed and thrown into the rubbish heap, it becomes a great loss to the company.

CAMBRIAN ERYR.

[To be concluded in next week's Journal.]

SLATE QUARRIES—COMPANIES, AND PROMOTERS.

SIR.—I am much pleased with the ingenuous letter of your correspondent, "J. F. N. H.," which was inserted in last week's Journal. Although I also know something of Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire, I do not wish to dispute a single fact that he has stated in regard to the slate veins of those counties—on the contrary, I believe them to be true; and in saying this I do not feel that I am in any way compromising the essential characteristics of Cambrian and Silurian slate, nor in any way lessening the general effect which the name of each district has given to its own slate.

The last paragraph of his letter, however, opens up a most momentous subject for consideration; and he may rest assured that not only in Pembrokeshire, but also in many parts of North Wales, "companies have been got up," I will not say "to work bad veins for the benefit of promoters and directors," because both promoters and directors might be deceived in the matter; but certainly when the directors, at least, have not paid sufficient attention to the facts which they rashly took for granted, I cannot let off the promoters quite so easily, because they seem to fall justly under the remark of your correspondent. I do not think that they are generally the deceived but the deceivers. The directors are often deceived by them. The cause of this is readily explained by the quotation of a few words from an article in last week's Journal, headed "The Natural Resources of Wales, No. 1." They run thus—"There is very little superfluous capital in Wales." This is undoubtedly the fact. The squires and squines of Wales have for generations been a race indulging in open-house hospitality; a system not at all, as you may suppose, adapted to the hoarding of "superfluous capital." Could any effect flow with more immediate consequence from its cause? Promoters have taken advantage of the situation.

But who are the promoters? This is the pivot on which the whole question turns. I mean the *general question*, because, in some instances, the well-known character of the promoters is a perfect guarantee of the stability of any undertaking. They will never neglect, in the case of slate quarries, to secure reports from men of old established repute in quarry working as to the nature of the rock, and also from a civil engineer, who will be able to explain in detail the natural facilities for working it, and thus give correct data for calculating the cost of working. This is one of the great essentials to be considered. The two reports combined will enable the promoters to calculate, almost with mathematical certainty, what the profits of a slate quarry will be.

In stating what promoters ought to be, it will be easy to arrive at the contradictory, what they ought not to be, and some clue, I hope, has been given for finding out the latter class by the above few brief remarks.

March 2.

SLATE QUARRIES—NORTH AND SOUTH WALES.

SIR.—In your esteemed publication of Saturday last there is an advertisement signed "Pioneer," referring to the slate trade of the Principality of North and South Wales, in which is given a list of about forty quarries now in operation in the various counties enumerated. The public will, probably, be surprised, on reading this advertisement, to see so important a list of quarries in work, to which, doubtless, the advertiser is able to add a large number. The recently-introduced quarry, called the Imperial Welsh Slate, and advertised on the same page of the Journal, does not appear under that title in "Pioneer's" list; but I would beg to inform the public in general, and the readers of your Journal in particular, that in the list of Pembrokeshire quarries it is mentioned under the name of Gloge, its ancient Welsh name, now rechristened (for the sake of euphony) into the Imperial, and which property consists of three distinct quarries, all of them, but one in particular, having been more or less worked for centuries. As a further proof of the growing interest in slate quarrying in Wales, another writer, on page 114 of the same Journal, who dates from "Belinda House, Haverfordwest," under the signature of "J. F. N. H.," enters into a discussion on the subject of the Silurian formation of rocks, and is, apparently, a strong advocate for the capacity of that formation to produce hard and durable—and not soft and perishable—slate. This writer also alludes to the Imperial Quarries, under the name of the "Glög," in the following passage, which appears to be rather *apropos* to the merits of the Imperial. He says—"I will also show a slab from Trwynllwyd Quarry *superior* in quality to any raised in North Wales, and the same from Glög. There is also a peculiar kind of slate raised in a quarry called Gilfach, on the borders of Pembrokeshire and Carmarthen, very tough, and strong, and durable, which fetches nearly double the price of ordinary North Wales slate; and a fair slab is produced at Ddanderwyd, but the vein is small." This writer further cautions the public against "numerous companies got up to work bad veins, and for the benefit of promoters and directors," but by avoidance of these evils he predicts "a great future for slate quarrying in Pembrokeshire," and is preparing "a history of all the quarries in the county, and the character of all the known slate veins," a work which must prove at this moment highly acceptable to capitalists.

Narberth, Pembrokeshire, Feb. 27.

LLECHEN.

FREEING GAS FROM COAL MINES.

SIR.—I am happy to find that Mr. Adcroft has consented to give his attention to my method of removing inflammable gas from coal mines, when by actual experiment I shall prove that by it gas can be removed from any part of a mine, provided there is sufficient room for a man to get his body into it; it matters not what quantity, nor whether it be 50 or more feet above the level of the roadway. Mr. Adcroft does not see that the miner would be safer for having the accumulations of gas removed. In some cases he would not, as in one of a sudden outburst or blower, which, as I have before stated, it is an impossibility to prevent; but I think Mr. Adcroft must admit that blowers would cause but local instead of general destruction if the reservoirs or magazines were kept clear. I am

rather diffident in giving my opinion respecting the cause of blowers, but I think it likely that after the coal is excavated large reservoirs are formed by the falling of the roof, which are filled by the continued exhalations of the explosive gas. In course of time the superincumbent weight causes a subsidence of the roof, thereby forcing the gas out of the crevices and fissures of the goaves and coal. If I am wrong in my impression I should feel happy to be enlightened on the subject. I know in some places it is the practice to wall up the old goaves to prevent the diffusion of gas, which I think would be far better removed; besides, it is impossible to compress an elastic body. In talking of strict supervision, let us suppose there were springs of water found in a mine. Would not the proprietor do all in his power to remove the water? Would he not go to the expense of powerful engines and costly machinery, besides a large amount of labour in draining the roadways? Surely as much trouble ought to be taken in removing an element lurking in various recesses of a mine, and doubly dangerous because unseen and unfelt. Water there is a chance of escaping from, but explosions of fire-damp none; and I hold water and gas identical, though opposite—as it is the tendency of the one to sink to the lowest part of the earth, of the other to rise to the highest possible point. By my plan gas can be removed much easier and cheaper than water, requiring no expensive machinery, and can be introduced into a mine in 24 hours, and in 15 minutes from the time the apparatus is fixed will commence withdrawing the gas from the goaves to the surface of the pit. Mr. Adcroft desires me minutely to notice my observation about working with naked lights. Well, in mines such as he has described, I think with him that naked lights had better not be used, as an accident may happen, but never to the fearful extent it would were the mine kept full of explosive gas; it may be fatal to those on the immediate spot, while the others would escape both fire and choke-damp, so that the fatality would be reduced to a minimum. I do not for a moment wish to say anything derogatory to the Davy lamp, it is the only safeguard a miner has under the present system of working a fiery mine, and it would be my chief agent in finding out the levels of gas in and about the old workings. I have so far endeavoured to reply to Mr. Adcroft's letter, and will shortly meet him and his friends to explain the subject, and, if proved ineffectual, I abide by their decision. I sincerely thank you for the privilege you have given me in introducing the subject in your widely-spread Journal.

Blaenavon, Feb. 27. J. G. WILLIAMS.

OIL AND COKE FROM COAL AND SLACK.

SIR.—Since your insertion of my letter of Feb. 3 I have received numerous letters from colliery proprietors and others, the bulk of which to the present remain unanswered, from the want of opportunity to do so; but, as they all appear to be readers of the *Mining Journal*, I shall esteem it a great favour if you will allow me here to assure them that they will be replied to as soon as I can find the necessary time. I wish more particularly to reply to the letter signed "Coal Oil," which appeared in the *Journal* of last week.

This writer appears to be fully alive to the vast importance of using coal oil as fuel for steamers, and for the production of illuminating gas, which is very cheering, especially as mineral oils for any purpose have, and continue to have, to contend against an amount of prejudice scarcely credible, and not at all complimentary to the intelligence of the nineteenth century, and in no place in the world has that prejudice been of so marked a character as in the town from whence he writes. It has, however, vanished from that locality, and, as usual when matters prove profitable, converts have become enthusiasts, and hydro-carbon oils are well on their way to form a pet trade in the town of Liverpool second to none of its commercial transactions, and all this within four or five years. I remember, about four years ago, no broker in Liverpool, save one, would even advance the freight on cargoes of petroleum. Such was the value set upon it, and such was the prejudice against it, that attempts were made by eminent commercial men to prohibit its importation into that port, and various expedients were resorted to to induce a popular demonstration against it. One of many, all equally absurd, I will name. Some of these seafarers hired a cart, and put into it a barrel of crude oil, and in the middle of the night they conveyed the cask, which they had caused to leak, through some of the principal streets of the town, and finally, I am told, deposited the empty barrel on the doorstep of the residence of the public officer of health. The next morning these streets and the neighbourhoods adjacent were redolent of petroleum, and vast was the outcry, and the consequences were serious to many who had commenced trafficking in it. Knowing these facts, and having been a sufferer from them, I am well pleased that a writer from Liverpool should be the first to recognise the importance of this new fuel. And as the remark "new" may be called into question, I may observe that I was the first to communicate to the Admiralty the great advantages that would accrue from the use of coal oil as fuel for war and merchant steamers, and to inform them that it would not be long ere it would be practicable to obtain it in sufficient quantity for that purpose. I am aware that petroleum has been tried by many. I tried it soon after its appearance commercially in this country from America, but abandoned it on account of its cost, and also on account of the uncertainty of supplies. I, however, did not abandon the idea, seeing clearly that coal oil of this country's production promised to become a rival to petroleum; but it was not until I had formed and tested my plan for making coke ovens the agent for the production of coal oil that I saw my way to use it as fuel for ocean steamers.

About the time I was in communication with the Admiralty two gentlemen were experimenting with petroleum on account of the Government, but they only appear to have arrived at similar conclusions to my own; and some time afterwards they saw the possibility of using coal oil, arguing from the quantity made in Scotland, North Wales, &c.; but large as the quantity produced in these districts is, it would be quite inadequate to supply the wants of the navy and mercantile marine. Besides, that is wanted for other purposes, whereas by my invention it is possible to produce the oil in any quantity.

I do not think the time is far distant when coal will be deprived of its condensable volatile matter prior to its appearance in the market for sale and consumption. The abstraction of the oil-making matter does not unfit it for any of the purposes it is used for. The residue, if drawn from the ovens immediately after the oil is expelled is not such fuel as is supplied from gasworks, but a fuel which when thrown on a fire gives out sufficient flame to impart to the fire a cheerful appearance, without the nuisance of a dense smoke, and the heat produced is as great, if not greater, than from coal.

However, the great point now under consideration is the applicability of coal oil as fuel for ocean steam ships; and I would put before you the scheme I laid before the Admiralty more than twelve months ago.

I propose to store the oil in chambers about 18 inches

cient confidence in the ultimate success of the mines, if properly managed, that buyers have been found for fully paid-up shares at 12s. 6d.

Under the influential auspices of the "Credit Foncier and Mobilier of England," in connection with Agra and Masterman's and the National Banks, THE IMPERIAL LAND COMPANY OF MARSEILLES has been introduced upon the London market, the capital being fixed at 1,600,000L, in shares of 20L each. The object of the company (which, as will be seen from the prospectus published in another column of this day's Journal, has been nearly twelve months in course of organisation), is to purchase and acquire land and property in Marseilles, to re-sell the same, and to acquire concessions, &c., connected with the development of the city and port. To attain these objects, various properties have been purchased in the best portions of the city, and where there is assurance of profitable results. Lands have been secured on the south of the town, with a large extent of sea-board, and to the north, in close proximity to the docks, the total extent of the land acquired is 4,900,000 square feet (nearly 115 English acres), and the reports of Prof. Donaldson and of Mr. P. Borde are of the most encouraging character. Marseilles is, both in population (it has 300,000 inhabitants) and wealth, the first maritime city in France, and during last year 18,000 vessels, with a tonnage of more than 3,000,000, entered and left the harbour. Prof. Donaldson, referring to the Joliette lands, states that the land divides itself into two classes—that in the Rue Imperiale, and the plots near the cathedral. These are immediately available, and the plots contiguous to the D'Arenc, Napoleon, and Radout Docks, which follow each other on the line of the seaboard like those at Liverpool. He imagines that the value of land will increase very considerably in two or three years beyond the present calculation, from offers already made; and although, of course, the accruing interest of the money will commence forthwith, he has no doubt that the value of the land will advance in much greater proportion. He estimates that with an advance of only 30 per cent, 50,000L would be realised. Mr. P. Borde, reporting on the Catalan lands, states that, with regard to the land built upon, they may calculate upon making cent. per cent. upon their purchase, and upon the other lands they may anticipate a profit of upwards of 3,000,000L sterling. The directors have given notice that the subscription lists for shares will close on Wednesday next for London, and on the following day for country applications.

The DARREN MINING COMPANY has issued its prospectus for an increase of capital by the issue of 10,000L worth of preferential stock, in 2000 shares, bearing interest at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum. The shares are to be paid for half on application and half on allotment. It is mentioned that the present company commenced operations about five years since, and out of a capital of 20,000L have expended 7200L. During this period a large quantity of silver-lead ore has been raised, and occasionally in sufficient quantities to leave the company a credit balance. The mine being of vast extent it was impossible at first starting to calculate the amount required for its full development; subsequent operations, however, have demonstrated that a further sum of from 6000L to 10,000L will be necessary to place the works in a profitable state. The lease is for nineteen years unexpired, and ample machinery is already erected to bring it to a successful issue. The guaranteed sum of 10 per cent. per annum is covered by the uncallable capital of the company, and by placing to the credit of the dividend fund 50 per cent. of the produce. There are no free shares in the undertaking, and the property has been favourably reported upon by Mr. J. Hitchins, and Caps. M. Francis and R. Williams. The prospectus will be found in another column.

The GREAT TREWOLACK WHEAL ROSE SILVER-LEAD MINING COMPANY, with a capital of 19,200L, in shares of 3L each, has issued its prospectus. One-half of the shares are fully paid-up, and represent the purchase-money for the sett, &c., and the remainder are now offered at 1L, payable on application, and the remainder in calls as required. The sett is to the north of East Wheal Rose, on the course of the same lodes, and it is opined that the lode struck is part of the East Wheal Rose lode.

At Redruth Ticketing, on Thursday, 2687 tons of ore were sold, realising 11,592L. The particulars of the sale were:—Average standard, 114L 8s.; average produce, 6s.; average price per ton, 4L 6s.; quantity of fine copper, 165 tons 18 cwt. The following are the particulars:—

Date. Tons. Standard. Produce. Price per ton. Ore copper. Jan. 25. 2650 £121 2 0 6s. £4 13 6 ... 15s. 3d. £76 5 0 Feb. 1. 4783 ... 119 10 0 6s. 4 12 0 ... 15 0 ... 75 0 0 " 8. 1892 ... 118 10 0 6s. 4 10 0 ... 14 9 ... 73 16 0 " 25. 4194 ... 120 12 0 8s. 4 2 0 ... 14 6 ... 72 8 0 March 1. 2657 ... 114 8 0 6s. 4 6 0 ... 13 11 1/2 ... 69 17 6

Compared with the last sale, the decline has been in the standard 1L, and in the price per ton of ore about 1s. 3d. Compared with the corresponding sale of last month, the decline has been in the standard 6L 15s., and in the price per ton of ore about 7s. 6d.

The following dividends have been declared during February:—

Mines.	Per share.	Amount.
Minera	£5 10 0	£9000 0 0
West Chiverton	1 10 0	4500 0 0
Wheal Seton	5 0 0	1980 0 0
Herdoford	1 15 0	1792 0 0
West Wheal Seton	4 0 0	1600 0 0
Frank Mills	0 5 0	1250 0 0
Provident	1 0 0	1120 0 0
Dolcoath	3 0 0	1074 0 0
Wheal Bassett	2 0 0	1024 0 0
Wheal Rose	0 10 0	1000 0 0
Cargill	1 0 0	916 0 0
Wheal Kitty (St. Agnes)	2 0 6	836 17 6
Fortuna	0 3 0	3750 0 0
Total		£30,442 17 6

At the Providence Mines meeting, on Wednesday, the accounts for the three months ending January showed a credit balance (after giving credit for 1800L, on account of the prepared for the market, but unsold) of 1120L 1s. 7d. The profit on the three months' working was 964L 5s. 4d. The agents' report, which was of the usual satisfactory character, and stated that at no former period had the mine looked more healthy, having been read, and the position of the mine considered in connection with the financial statement, it was resolved that a dividend of 1120L (1s. per share) be declared, free of income tax, payable when the tin now given credit for 1800L is sold, the balance remaining to be carried to credit of next account. The dividend will be remitted in due course.

At the Falmouth and Sperries Mine meeting, on Feb. 23, the accounts showed a profit on the four months, ending Dec., of 149L 12s. 3d. At the previous meeting (in Oct.) there was a balance against the adventurers of 167L 19s. 2d., which with 41s., now charged, on account of shares relinquished, will leave a debit balance of 43L 6s. 11d. No call was made, as there is every probability, from the position of the mine, that the relinquishing shareholders will be paid off without calling on the adventurers. Tresidder's engine-shaft is sunk 6 1/2 fms. below the 40. The lode is standing whole to the north at this point. The lode in this level is driven east 13 fathoms; it is 3 ft. wide, producing 6 tons of mundic per fathom, with a very kindly appearance. West it is driven 16 fms.; it is 6 ft. wide, producing 20 tons of mundic per fathom. The stopes in the back of the 40 west is being stopped by nine men; the lode is 20 ft. wide, producing 40 tons of mundic per fathom, with stones of copper ore. There are eight other stopes, producing on an average from 11 to 12 tons of mundic per fathom, with stones of copper ore.

At Wheal Margaret meeting, on Wednesday, the accounts for the three months ending December showed—Tin sold and sundries, 2048L 10s. 5d.—Balance last audit, 133L 9s. 5d.; mine cost, merchants' bills, and dues, 190L 2s.; leaving credit balance, 117. 19s. The profits on the three months' working was 145L 8s. 5d.

At Rosewarne Hill and Ransom United Mines quarterly meeting, on Monday, the accounts showed a loss of 523L 18s. 6d. on the three months' working, and a call of 2s. 6d. per share was made. The balance against the mine appears to be 843L 18s. 10d. A resolution was passed authorising the bankers to advance, if requisite, to the extent of 2500L, of which sum 2087L 3s. 11d. is shown to be already due to them.

At Wheal Emma general meeting, on Monday, the accounts showed a credit balance of 287L. Mr. J. H. Stalwart, M.D., took the chair, and there were present shareholders in person and by proxy representing 3067 shares. The report of the captain, which will be found in another column, was considered very satisfactory to the present and future prospects of the mine. Messrs. Ash, Hoad, Joll, Rogers, Rowlands, and Thorne were elected as committees, and Mr. J. H. Stalwart as auditor.

At the Cilgerran and Wentworth special meeting, on Tuesday, it was resolved that the materials be offered for sale, and that a special meeting be held on the mines within 21 days to confirm this resolution, and make a call if required. About 28,000L has been paid up here.

At the West Welsh Friendship meeting, on Tuesday (Mr. Carttar in the chair), it was agreed to take steps to obtain sufficient capital to develop the proved resources of the mine.

At the Hendre Ddu Slate and Slab Quarry meeting, on Wednesday (Sir W. Milman, Bart., in the chair), the reports and accounts were adopted, the directors and auditor re-elected, and 156L voted to the directors for their attendance during 1865. Details in another column.

At the New Mansfield Copper and Silver Mining Company (annual) meeting, on Wednesday (Sir Charles Bright, M.P., in the chair), the report of the directors was received and adopted, and a special resolution was passed authorising the directors to exercise their borrowing powers to any amount not exceeding 20,000L. Details appear in another column.

At the Royal Consolidated Copper Mining Company of San Fernando meeting, on Monday (Mr. W. Sharp in the chair), it was stated that the balance at the last meeting was 2055L, whereas it was now 2122L. The report of the liquidators stated that upon the last occasion the division of the assets was deferred, owing to the existence of a notice received from Mr. Arista and Mr. Wheeler. Mr.

Arista's notice and action against the company were withdrawn, and the only obstacle to the distribution was the notice of Mr. Wheeler, which still remained in force. The Chairman mentioned that since the report was prepared certain arrangements were likely to take place that would lead to the withdrawal of Mr. Wheeler's notice, in which case the distribution would immediately take place. The assets in hand would be sufficient to return 1s. per share.

At the Dun Mountain Copper Mining Company meeting, on Wednesday (Mr. Scandlers in the chair), it was resolved to wind-up the company, with a view to its reconstitution. Details in another column.

At the Welsh Mountain Petroleum Company (third general) meeting, on Monday (Mr. G. S. Trower in the chair), it was stated that since the last meeting a refinery had been erected in Ibrahim, and was now in full operation. The system of working in Wallachia had been re-organised, and the directors had provided for the successful prosecution of the company's business there. The existing yield from a small portion of the concessions obtained by the company, on being refined, would produce a revenue of between 30,000L and 40,000L, and the directors had the satisfaction to state that arrangements were being made by which the annual profits would be greatly augmented. The present position of the company was such as to justify the directors to believe that they would soon be enabled to expunge the loss occasioned by the lamentable fire which occurred in August, 1864, and other smaller losses which were inevitable in developing the business, and so declare a dividend. The Chairman said that although he could not congratulate the shareholders upon the receipt of a dividend upon the present occasion, yet it was satisfactory to know that the position of the company was very much improved since the last report was presented. He thought they had now arrived at the turning point in their misfortunes, and he confidently looked forward to brighter prospects. He did not, however, hesitate to say that the profits which might be realised were very materially diminished by the want of more capital, and he would be glad to see the shareholders follow the example of the directors, by purchasing the preference shares of the company. Mr. Swan, in seconding the proposition to adopt the report, said that great credit was due to the directors for the manner in which they had supported the undertaking in its difficulties, and but for whose exertions the company would have fallen into the hands of the Bankruptcy Court. The report was unanimously adopted. The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman and directors.

The Marquette and New Granada Mining Company is about to wind-up voluntarily, and take measures for forming a new company under the Limited Liability Act, which will take over, under certain conditions, the property of the existing company, the present shareholders having the preference of subscribing thereto. A meeting is to be held on Monday for this purpose.

The Phosphate of Lime Company directors report that, notwithstanding unexpected difficulties in connection with the title of the Extremadura property, the directors have succeeded in obtaining the transfer of that and the Sombrero property to the company, which is now in possession of both. The working of Sombrero to Dec. 31 last has realised a net profit of nearly 8000L from that property alone, whilst a large amount of tonnage is coming forward, and they confidently anticipate a considerably increased profit in the current half-year from the working of the Extremadura property, which will be commenced immediately. A dividend of 8 per cent. per annum on the paid-up capital will be recommended. The postponement of the Stock Exchange settlement results from the necessity of submitting the certificate of registration in the district court of Lugo, which will be completed as speedily as possible. The company is already in full possession of both properties.

We are requested to direct attention to an announcement which appears in our advertising columns, to the effect that the celebrated firm of Harvey and Co., of Hayle, Cornwall, who are largely engaged in mines, and also well known in the mercantile world for nearly a century, have no connection with any other establishment. The publication of this notice has become requisite, from the fact of a similarity of name and occupation having occasioned an idea that "Harvey and Co., of Hayle," were concerned in undertakings of which they have no knowledge, but respecting which they have received various communications.

Mr. Thomas Thompson, of 12, Old Jewry Chambers, E.C., has requested us to state that he has no connection, directly or indirectly, with the firm of Harvey and Co., of Bishopsgate-street, Within, whose advertisement has appeared in the columns of the Journal.

The Bank of England return for the week ending on Wednesday evening is less favourable than that which preceded it, and the anticipations of a further diminution in the minimum rate of discount have not, therefore, been realised. The advances upon "private securities" have increased by nearly 800,000L, but the increase in the coin and bullion is not unsatisfactory. In the Issue Department there is shown on the liability side an increase in the notes issued of 141,515L, which is accounted for by the corresponding increase in the "gold coin and bullion" on the asset side. In the Banking Department there is shown on the asset side an increase in the "other securities" to the extent of 791,657L; whilst on the liability side there was an increase in the "rest" of 183,707L; in the "public deposits" of 400,004L; and in the "other deposits" of 150,820L = 734,531L, from which must be deducted the decrease in the "seven day and other bills" of 4745L = 729,786L; leaving a balance, being decrease in the total reserve (notes and coin) of 61,871L. The reserve consisted of notes, 7,315,105L, being a decrease of 63,956L; and gold and silver coin, 833,369L, being an increase of 2124L; the difference, 61,871L, being the net total decrease shown above.

On the Stock Exchange an average amount of business has been transacted in Mining Shares during the week. The following quotations were officially recorded in British Mining Shares:—Chiverton, 8L; Clifford, 16L; East Caradon, 7L, 8L, 8 1/2L; East Carn Brea, 4L; Great Laxey, 20L, 20 1/2L, 20L; West Caradon, 7L; Great Wheal Vor, 30L, 30 1/2L, 30L. In Colonial Mining Shares the prices were:—Cape, 11L, 11 1/2L, 11L, 11 1/2L; General, 20L; Yudanamuta, 1L, 1 1/2L, 1L. In Foreign Mining Shares the prices were:—Chontales, 4L, 4 1/2L, 4L, 4L, 4L, 4L; St. John del Rey, 5L, 5 1/2L, 5 1/2L, 5 1/2L, 5 1/2L; Washoe (4L paid), 4L, 4L, 4L, 4L; Cobre, 16L; Frontrino and Bolivian, 1L, 1 1/2L, 1L.

The conviction of Mr. Permewan, of Redruth, for extensive forgeries of mine transfers will cause deep regret to a large number of persons in West Cornwall, where the criminal had moved in the highest social circles. He was highly esteemed as the leading medical practitioner of a large district and a man of much personal excellence and goodness of heart. We are bound now to assume that he was guilty, and his crime can only be attributed to that excessive haste to get rich which a love of speculation is so apt to engender.

THE STRIKE IN CORNWALL.—It is to be regretted that the demon of Discord has shown itself in the hitherto peaceful mining districts of the West; but we may hope that the prompt and decisive measures taken by the mine agents will prevent the "irreparable injury to mining enterprise" which could not fail to result from the miners' perseverance with the project, and will prove of equal advantage to the mine adventurers and to the working miner. The movement is regretted for the miners' sake, and even gentlemen who have for years been known throughout the counties as the working miners' best friends, and who have usually given, perhaps, undue prominence to their wishes, condemn the movement as unlikely to lead to any good results, whilst it must cause considerable and unnecessary misery. A "non-society" miner has already been maltreated at Gunnislake by the Unionists, and there are about 600 men and youths at present out on strike at East Caradon and Marke Valley Mines. As a counter movement it has been resolved to close the whole of the mines in the Devonshire and East Cornwall districts against "society" men, and the advertisements to that effect will be found in another column. So many mines are at present working under conditions, owing to the very depressed state of the copper and tin markets, which render it of little importance to the adventurers, whether operations are suspended or continued, that it is evidently a most unfavourable time for the miners to obtain a recognition of their claims, whilst even the adventurers in dividend-paying mines would probably be gainers by stopping their works until the present period of depression has passed by; indeed, we learn that the managers of the largest mine affected positively declares that "if well-positioned men are ready to change their happy homes for ruin and the union," the adventurers cannot be blamed for taking the opportunity to profit by permitting the stocks of metal to become reduced. The result of the strike after the first inconvenience is over can only be to cause the stopping of the unprofitable mines, and the flooding with labour of the mines giving profit.

THE SCOTCH IRON TRADE ENDANGERED.—For the interest of the Scotch and Cleveland Iron Trade, I beg to venture a few remarks upon its present "golden era," predicted in your valuable Journal in Nov., 1863. Prices have risen to a height unexpected by even the most sanguine "bulls;" and this unhealthy state of the article, I regret to observe, has been brought about by the operations of certain speculators. These operations, if not checked, must, of necessity, have a most ruinous influence upon the British iron trade, more especially in connection with the trade to the Continent. This opinion I rest upon the following reasons, based upon facts, with which alone we have to deal:—The import of Scotch pig-iron in 1863 amounted to nearly 150,000 tons, the largeness of the quantity being accounted for by the fact that reasonable prices ruled—prices which enabled the importer to offer the article to the consumers in Germany at only a few shillings above the cost of home produce. Scotch pig-iron, at trifles higher prices, will always obtain the preference over the German make, except from those proprietors of iron founders who, from principle, use the home-made article, and of these there are many. I believe I may safely say that, in consequence of the present high prices of Scotch and English pigs, scarcely any contracts for this year's consumption have yet been made, the buyers waiting for a fall, which they confidently expect is long; but should this not happen, they will then enter into contracts with the German ironmasters, whose numbers are rapidly increasing, and, in this event, there will naturally be a falling off in the exports from Britain of nearly 150,000 tons—the quantity shipped last year to Germany, as stated above. The owners of the continental lines of steamers, well aware of these facts, have been obliged, in order to procure pig-iron on freight, to reduce the rate nearly 40 per cent., as compared with the freight current last year; and although the river freights to the interior of Germany are very low at this season, and this is one of the most important points of consideration for the importer—the import is up to this moment entirely *ad val.* As a British subject, I am proud of the position England occupies for the most of the principal commodities, and, therefore, I am anxious that the ironmasters should not, by a false step, or by not "looking before leaping," fall into a ditch out of which they may find it extremely difficult to extricate themselves. Let those who are interested in the welfare of the iron trade consider not only the present gain which the high prices bring them, but let them think also of the consequences which the present "golden era" may have upon the article. Let them then consider this, and they will see the folly and danger of making pig-iron an article of speculation; for when continental consumers come to view the position of the article in this light they will most assuredly set their faces against the purchase of a commodity subject to such

capricious fluctuations; and after they shall have become accustomed to the use of German iron it will be difficult ever to get them to return to the Scotch make.—L. S. Hamburg, Feb. 28.

TO CAPITALISTS.—The PROPRIETORS of a LANDED PROPERTY in ANGLESEY, which contains most promising indications of copper ore, are DESIROUS to MEET with a COMPANY who would EXPLORE and WORK IT.—Apply to "A. B." Herald office, Carnarvon.

TO CAPITALISTS.—WANTED, a PARTNER in ONE of the MOST PROMISING COLLIERIES in NORTH WALES. The royalty is about 500 acres, and is already proved to contain four valuable seams of coal, adapted both for house and steam purposes, and the returns on the capital invested will be at least 50 per cent. annually. The capital is required for the full development of the concern, and if preferred the incoming partner may have the entire management, financially and otherwise.—Address, "W. 15," Post-office, Liverpool.

A GENTLEMAN buying an extensive connection with Merchants, Manufacturers, and others, would be GLAD to UNDERTAKE the SALE of PATENTED ARTICLES or INVENTIONS, on commission.—Apply to Mr. W. T. Rawle, patent and mining agent, 1, Small-street, Bristol

WATSON AND CUELL'S MINING CIRCULAR.

WATSON AND CUELL,
MINING AGENTS, STOCK AND SHARE DEALERS, &c.
1, ST. MICHAEL'S ALLEY, CORNHILL, LONDON.

Messrs. WATSON and CUELL having made arrangements for transferring their weekly Circular, which has had so large a circulation during the past ten years, to the columns of the *Mining Journal*, their special reports and remarks upon Mines and Mining, and the state of the Share Market, will in future appear in this column.

In the year 1843, when Cornish mining was almost unknown to the general public, attention was first called to its advantages, when properly conducted, in the "Compendium of British Mining," commenced in 1837, and published in 1843, by Mr. J. Y. Watson, F.G.S., author of "Gleanings among Mines and Miners," "Records of Ancient Mining," "Cornish Notes" (first series, 1862), "Cornish Notes" (second series, 1863), "The Progress of Mining," with Statistics of the Mining Interest, annually for 21 years, &c., &c. In the Compendium published in 1843 Mr. Watson was the first to recommend the system of a "division of small risks in several mines, ensuring success if the aggregate," and Messrs. Watson and Cuell have always a selected list on hand. Perhaps at no former period in the annals of mining has there been more peculiar need of honest and experienced advice in regard to mines and share-dealing than there is at present; and, from the lengthened experience of Messrs. Watson and Cuell, they are emboldened to offer, thus publicly, their best services to all connected with mines or the market, as they have for so many years done privately, through the medium of their own Circular.

Messrs. WATSON and CUELL transact business in the purchase and sale of mining shares, and other securities, payments of calls, receipt, and transmission of dividends, obtaining information for clients, and affording advice, to the best of their knowledge and judgment, based on the experience of more than 30 years active connection with the Mining Market.

Messrs. WATSON and CUELL also inform their clients and the public, that they transact business in the public funds, railways, docks, insurance, and every other description of shares dealt in on the Stock Exchange.

Messrs. WATSON and CUELL are almost daily asked their opinion of particular mines, as well as to recommend mines to invest or speculate in, and they give their advice and recommend mines to the best of their judgment and ability, founded on the best practical advice they can obtain from the mining districts, but they will not be held responsible, nor subject to blame, if results do not always equal the expectations they may have held out in a property so fluctuating as mining.

Messrs. WATSON and CUELL having agents and correspondents in all the mining districts, and an extensive connection among the largest holders of mining property, have the more confidence in tendering their advice on all matters relating to the state and prospects of mines and mining companies, and are enabled to supply shares in all the best mines at close market prices, free of all charges for commission.

EAST GREENVILLE—"A SHAREHOLDER."—The lode here has been prospected by the agent (Capt. Odgers), and also by the agent of West Bassett, to be the lode which yielded the great riches in West Bassett, and the disputed lode between that mine and South Frances. West Bassett was in 1800 shares, brought out at £1, and rose to £1. Between 1854 and 1863 the mine paid 147,300*l.* in dividends—the largest paid in any one year was 23,850*l.*, in 1856. South Frances has paid about 200,000*l.* in dividends. When the lode was first cut good for copper at the 65 in East Greenville, the shares rose to £1 each. The next level—the 75—which we described last week, was rather disappointing, breaks being rather characteristic of the lode, and shares dropped to 3*l*. The ore has now come in at the 85, and a winze was commenced from the 75, 11 fms. before the 85 end, in a lode worth 50*l.* per fathom. The 85 has completely drained the 75, and this feature, whenever it occurred in West Bassett, was informed by one of the largest shareholders in it, the invariable precursor of a rich deposit of ore. Of course, it is not in our power, or in that of anyone else, to say how East Greenville will eventually turn out, but the chances are much in favour of a rich mine, and then the present price of shares would not represent one-fourth of their value. We advise our correspondent (and others also) not to be guided by the market opinions, but to send and have the mine *inspected for himself by an independent agent*; and, as Capt. Roberts was manager of West Bassett all through its riches, no one can be found better qualified to give an opinion of East Greenville.

WHEAL UNITY.—We regret to say that, owing to the impossibility of getting in the arrears of calls, the present company will be wound-up, and the mine leases and machinery offered for sale in one lot. Upwards of 30,000*l.* has been spent on the mine, and it is abandoned just at a time when ore has been reached, and a small outlay would render it remunerative. If a party is formed to purchase the mine as it stands, and form a new company, we shall be happy to join in it: 250*l.*, we apprehend, would make the purchase, as well as provide capital to work it.

GREAT NORTH LAXEY.—We are obliged to a Dublin shareholder for the kind expressions contained in his letter.

"W. J." (Cheltenham).—We were not quite sure about the depths last week, but are now in a position to state that Great Laxey paid dividends first of all from between the 80 and 100 fms. levels, and 20 years ago began paying them regularly from the 110 fms. level. It is not two years ago that we bought these shares for our clients at 4*l* each, and they rose in 12 months to 20*l*. We are not going to say that the same thing will happen in Great North Laxey, though on the same rich vein, for no one can venture to say that; and we shall be quite content to see the shares at half that price in the next 12 months. We advised holders last week not to sell, but if any prefer not to take that advice, and would rather sell, we are prepared to support our opinion, and take any number from bona fide holders at the market price. This answer will apply to several communications we have received this week. We have reason to believe that most of the shares purchased of late are for parties in the Isle of Man, where the value of the speculation is best known; and all those who chose to take our advice now, will each buy a few shares, and keep them for a few months.

DOES COAL EXIST NEAR LONDON?—In a work "On the Extension of the English Coal Fields beneath the Secondary Formations of the Midland Counties," Mr. Joseph Holdsworth has carefully considered the question of the probable existence of coal near London, and the large amount of knowledge and research which he has brought to bear upon the subject cannot fail to be very generally acceptable. The volume (which is published at the *Mining Journal* office, price 2*l*. 6*d*.) is divided into six chapters—Coal, the Mainspring of our National Prosperity: its Permanent and Economic Supply of Paramount Importance—Probable Early Exhaustion of our Northern and Midland Coal Fields—Geographical Extent and Material Capacities of the Principal English Coal Fields—On the Probable Extension, by Geological Induction, of our Coal Fields Beneath the Newer Formations of the Midland and Southern Counties of the Kingdom—Does Coal Exist near London? Geologically Considered—And the Provision and Purposes of the Creator. The work throughout is highly interesting, and in our next we shall give an epitome of its contents.

COPPER MINING IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Mining, which has always, since the discovery of copper at the Wallaroo Mines, flourished in York's Peninsula, is now in a more prosperous condition than ever. There is scarcely a mine at work here but what is progressing in a greater or less degree, and we are glad to perceive that the secondary mines are giving promise of paying at no very distant period. We believe, at their present rate of yield, the Yelta and Karkarilla must be more than paying their working expenses, and probably the New Cornwall Mine must be doing the same. The quantity of ore shipped from this port during November was 2800 tons, of which the Moonta Mine alone furnished above 2300. Nearly the whole of the ore shipped, or at least 2700 tons of it, would find its way to Swanson; and as we know a considerable quantity of it was of high percentage, we think shall be within the mark in valuing the total quantity shipped at 12*l*. per ton, or 33,600*l.* Besides this the shipments of copper amounted to 371 tons during November, and valuing it at 8*l*. per ton, we have 33,648*l.*—nearly as much in value as the ore. This shows our total shipments of mineral produce to amount to 66,248*l.* for the past month. Nor do we believe this to be a very exceptional case as to the amount of one month's return, although it may be as to quantity shipped. We believe we are within the mark in estimating the regular average monthly return of ore from all the Peninsula mines at 4200 tons, worth on an average at least 17 per cent. of pure copper. The value of this ore, at 12*l*. per ton, is 50,400*l.* per month, or 604,800*l.* in a year. When we add to this the exports of ore from the Burns, Bremer, Kanmantoo, Kapunda, Yudanamatta, Blinman, and other copper mines, besides those of silver-lead from the Tailskaer and other mines in the South, and the various ores of blanum, silver-lead, and copper from the other side of the Gulf, the total mineral exports of the colony will represent a value for the present year probably not far short of three-quarters of a million sterling; or, at any rate, the exports for the last six months of the year will be found to be nearly in that ratio. At the present rate of production, unless the price of copper should fall considerably, next year's exports are likely to be still larger. This will, we believe, place the value of our mineral productions at the top of the list of exports, above even cereals and wool, and in the position which three or four years ago we expected they would be long occupy. If we go on at the same rate as we have done during the past three years, the produce of our copper ore will soon equal in value those of England, which in the year 1864-5 only amounted to 1,100,547*l.* as the produce of 222 mines. The quantity of copper from all these mines was 210,947 tons in the year, while that from the Moonta and Wallaroo Mines alone is now at the rate of about 45,000 tons per annum, or more than one-fifth of the total quantity raised in England. But our ores are so much richer that a far larger quantity of copper is made from them than from the English ores, so that the present produce of the Moonta and Wallaroo Mines is nearly half as much as that of 222 mines of England!—*Wallaroo Times*, Dec. 23, 1865.

SILVER MINING IN NEVADA, U.S.—The yield of the Gould and Curry Mine for the quarter ending Nov. 27, 1865, was 12,948 tons, valued at \$8.14 per ton, and amounting to \$103,836.72. The yield of the Chollar Potosi Mine for the same period was 12,509*l* tons of ore, valued at \$907.53*l* per ton, amounting to \$34,742.10. The Savage yielded 8036 tons, valued at \$8.39 per ton, and amounting to \$31,349*l*. The Ophir yielded 3000 tons, valued at \$1.83*l* per ton, and amounting to \$55,000*l*. The Mexican yielded 792 tons, valued at \$1.72 2*l*. 5*d* per ton, amounting to \$32,119.81. Total number of tons extracted 38,255*l*, amounting to \$1,79,101.62, from those five mines. That is not so bad; but just wait till they get to taking out ore from the big shafts now sinking, and then we can talk about a yield: 180 ozs. of refined amalgam, worth \$3000*l*, was recently extracted from 65 tons of rock out of the lucky mine, of Grass Valley; average, \$6*l* to the ton.—*Mining and Scientific Press*, San Francisco, Jan. 10.

THE CREDIT FONCIER AND MOBILIER OF ENGLAND (LIMITED), IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE AGRA AND MASTERSMAN'S BANK (LIMITED), AND THE NATIONAL BANK, WILL RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOR THE CAPITAL OF THE IMPERIAL LAND COMPANY OF MARSEILLES (LIMITED).

Capital £1,600,000, or 80,000 shares of £20 each.

Deposit on application £1 per share, on allotment £4 per share.

Interest at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum will be paid for the first two years, for which interest warrants, payable half-yearly, will be attached to the share certificates.

After the two years the profit income on re-sales of land already effected, and profit on further sales, will be applicable for distribution as dividend or bonus.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* Much inconvenience having arisen in consequence of several of the Numbers during the past year being out of print, we recommend that the Journal should be regularly filed on receipt: it then forms an accumulating useful work of reference.

SIR.—Would any of your correspondents inform me the amount of calamine, or carbonate of zinc, imported and raised in this country during the past year?—CALAMINE.

MANGANESE.—Replies to the enquiry in last week's Journal, I may state that Manganese is found in some localities in veins, and in others in deposit. Having a good connection for its disposal, I am prepared either to contract for all your correspondent can produce up to (say) 3000 tons per annum, or to work the mine in connection with him; or to lease it and pay (an after to be arranged) royalty—say, 1-12th or 1-15th, as is usual, according to the quality.—H.

MANGANESE.—In the Notices to Correspondents last week there are some enquiries made concerning Manganese, its value, uses, demand, &c. If "Inquirer" will forward a note to me at your office, I think I can afford him some valuable information both to the present and, to some extent, the future of this mineral. I have used it rather largely as an article of manufacture, and have made it a special subject of chemical and commercial investigation.

MANGANESE.—If "Inquirer" respecting Manganese, in last week's Journal, will write us at our Manganese office, Calstock, Tavistock, we will give him every information he may require.—JOHN SIMS AND SONS.

MOLYBDENA.—Can any reader inform me, through the medium of the Journal, what is the price per ton of Molybdena, the uses to which it is applied, and where a market can be found for it? By so doing they will oblige.—T. H.

THE ARSENICOUS AND SULPHURIC ORE REDUCTION COMPANY.—The remarks of Mr. Pen-gilly, in last week's Journal, under this heading, are somewhat extraordinary, and the motives he attributes as the cause of my letter are certainly rather amusing; and he must either "contravene the truth," to use his own expression, or be quite ignorant of what is going on in the arsenic trade, or he would have known that there were no less than six works in this neighbourhood a short time ago engaged in the manufacture of arsenic direct from ores, three of which have ceased to make it.—MANUFACTURER DIRECT FROM ORES: *Swansea, March 1.*

HOLLYBUSH COLLIERY AND COKE WORKS COMPANY.—We have received the letter from "Engineer," and it shall receive attention in our next Journal.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS—"T. S." (Wales). Upon giving sufficient evidence to the Secretary of his qualifications for the honour, "T. S." would no doubt be supplied with the necessary particulars as to the mode of procuring admission. No one can become a "member" unless he has been educated as an engineer, and follows the profession: qualifications for an "associate" are merely connection with engineering.

MINING TERMS.—"Enquirer" (Cheltenham) should obtain, through a bookseller, or direct from our office, the "Glossary of English and Foreign Mining and Smelting Terms," price 2s. He will thus obtain all the information he requires.

JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES LAW—"A Subscriber."—The charge to be made for the copy of the list of shareholders, under Section 32 of the Companies Act, 1862, is 6d. for each 100 words required to be copied. From nine to twelve names and addresses will be included in each 100 words, therefore the cost of a copy of a register containing 270 names would be about 2s.

TACK-NOTE FOR CROWN LANDS.—"A. V. A." can obtain all the particulars he requires upon application to Professor W. Warington Smyth, at the Royal School of Mines, Jermyn-street.

DISSOLVING SHELLAC—"Americanus."—The use of caustic ammonia as a solvent for shellac has been general amongst hatters for many years; the caustic ammonia (liq. ammon. fortis. 880) is that usually employed by hatters); is, moreover, much less troublesome to use than spirit of wine. But the two solutions are not applicable to all the same purposes.

THE MINING JOURNAL

Balway and Commercial Gazette.

LONDON, MARCH 3, 1866.

THE COAL TRADE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES—No. III.

There is no coal, properly so called, in ITALY. A kind of anthracite is found in the valley of Aosta; it is extracted in limited quantities, and chiefly used for domestic purposes. Lignite is abundant; beds of it exist in Lombardy and Piedmont, and in the Tuscan Maremma, and at several points along the chain of the Apennines. Mr. HERRIES reports upon the several districts in their geographical order from north to south. The Leffe Gandino bed, in the Val Seriana, in Lombardy, extends over 500 hectares, and is worked by two companies. The lignite produced is of a kind resembling peat. When first extracted it contains a considerable quantity (of water?), and must be left for a long time before it is dry, and fit for use; when quite dry, it is found to have but 50 per cent. of its original weight. The price at the pit's mouth in 1864 was about 15 francs per ton. The Cadibona Mine, near Savona, in the Gulf of Genoa, has been worked for several years; its production, which up to 1851 did not exceed an annual average of 1000 tons, increased in 1855 to 20,000, and fell off again in 1861 to the former amount. From 80 to 100 tons of lignite are extracted daily at Sarzanello, near Spezia; the best quality is considered very good, and is used in lead works. The Monte Bamboli Mine is situated between Grosseto and Piombino, opposite the Island of Elba. There are two seams, about 1½ metre apart—the upper from 1 to 1½ metre thick. The works have been carried to a depth of 150 metres, and a steam-engine is employed. The lignite is of a superior quality, slightly bituminous, and burns with a long flame. The production does not exceed 10,000 tons in a year; as, owing to the unhealthiness of the climate, the works cannot be carried on for more than seven or eight months. The Monte Rufoli, or Podemnovo Mine, in the valley of the Sterza, at a distance of 17 kilos. from the nearest point of the Maremma Railway, is the property of Signor Cagliari; it was opened in 1858, but remained for a long time unproductive, owing to want of roads—an inconvenience which has been partially remedied. The mine is said to be very rich; more than 1,000,000 tons of lignite have been ascertained to exist, and calculations have been made to show that the field, probably, extends over a surface of 2,000,000 square metres, giving upwards of 4,000,000 tons of fuel. There are two parallel, and almost contiguous seams, each of the thickness of 1 metre. This lignite has been used with advantage in metallurgical operations, and for steam-engines in mines. The mines of Monte Massi and Castel Tatti, situated between Rocca Strada and Massa Marittima, have two parallel seams, the upper one from 4 to 6 metres and the lower 1½ metre thick. In 1863 the quantity actually discovered was calculated at 600,000, and in the year ending June 30, 1865, the production was about 6000 tons. This lignite is of fair quality, and burns freely, but leaves a large deposit of ash (14 per cent.). There is another mine in this part of the country, called Lama, belonging to Mr. William Miller, of Leghorn; it has been worked for about two years. The seam is rather more than 1 metre in thickness, and the quality is good. It is believed that 30 or 40 tons per day might be extracted, and the lignite sells at 10 francs per ton at the pit's mouth. Owing to the great quantity of ashes which it deposits the Tuscan lignite is not well adapted for marine or locomotive engines; it is used, however, to a certain extent as fuel in coasting steamers. The lignitiferous basin at Briatico, near the coast of Calabria, the working of which has been abandoned. The Gonnessa Mine, on the south-east coast of the Island of Sardinia, is worked on a small scale. Some true coal is reported to have been recently discovered on the coast of Calabria, but no reliable information on the subject can be obtained. The external coal trade of Italy is necessarily an import trade. The ratio in which Italy draws its supplies from Great Britain, and from other sources, appears to show that the chief supply is derived from Great Britain, but the figures, which are, probably, intended to represent kilogrammes, are so palpably incorrect that we do not reprint them—thus large imports (hundreds of thousands of tons, even assuming the figures as kilogrammes) are shown from Norway and Sweden, Holland, Russia, and Turkey. We hope to have an opportunity of furnishing a correct statement in a future number.

In the ROMAN STATES there are no coal fields. Mr. J. T. LOWE writes that lignite of questionable combustibility exists in the district of Tolsa, in the province of Civita Vecchia, and is being feebly excavated, with indifferent results. The total quantity imported from Great Britain is about 11,161 tons per annum. The supplies from other sources—say, France and Italy (Tuscan coal)—may be estimated at about 9000 tons annually. This quantity is likely to decrease in future, in consequence of the abandonment of their lines by the Messageries Impériales, for whose exclusive use the French coal, to the extent of upwards of 8000 tons annually, has hitherto been imported.

There is, perhaps, no country in Europe, writes Mr. SIDNEY LOCOCK, where such large coal districts exist as in RUSSIA, and where so little has been done towards turning them to account. Wide tracts have been discovered in the Oural Mountains, in the neighbourhood of Moscow, and in the regions bordering upon the Don, but it is only here and there that coal pits have been formed, and these have been generally worked without a system, without skilled labour, without proper machinery, without capital, and in many cases without an accessible market. It is not surprising, therefore, that Russia has hitherto derived small advantage from what

might, under other circumstances, be a valuable source of wealth. On the banks of the River Oural the coal has been already worked to supply the factories, which have consumed all the wood on the spot. It is calculated that over 20,000 tons have been already produced; this quantity would have been far greater were it not difficulty of transport. The coal fields further north, in the vicinity of the Kama, tributaries of the Volga, are likely to be more valuable, especially if a contemplated railway from Perm to Tumen should ever be constructed. The value of the coal in the Oural district is greatly enhanced by the fact that iron is found in its immediate neighbourhood. The immense coal district, of which Moscow is the centre, covers an area of 400 miles long by 300 miles broad, while from the most northern circumference it extends in long line, diminishing in breadth, until it reaches the shore of the White Sea to the east of Archangel; the coal is generally of inferior quality. The coal region of the Don, which covers an area of 180 miles long by 100 miles broad, lies half encircled by the southernmost branch of the Don, which thus commands an easy means of communication with the sea of Azoff, and the shores of the Euxine. The beds of coal, which vary in quality, are much disturbed, being in many places found at an elevation, and considerably broken. The value of the coal imported into Russia in 1864 was 4,828,106 roubles, of which England supplied 4,528,545 roubles; Prussia, 168,121; Turkey, 115,947; Austria, 10,726; and miscellaneous, 4,767. The average value of the coal about 6 roubles. The results at which Mr. LOCOCK arrives are, that the consumption of English coal is, and is likely to be, almost exclusively confined to St. Petersburg, and those parts in easy communication with the Baltic. The importation of coal has trebled in the last seven years, and is likely to go on steadily increasing with the wealth and industry of the northern Governments of the empire.

With regard to DENMARK, it appears that nearly the whole of the coal imported is derived from Great Britain. Mr. GEORGE PETRE reports that the only two coal mines existing in the kingdom of Denmark are in the Island of Bornholm.

The produce of these two mines is merely sufficient to supply that island with fuel, and no coal is exported to other parts of the kingdom. The quantity of coal annually yielded by the two mines in question, one situated at Rømø and the other near Hasle, in 1864 was about 19,300 Danish, or 2,757 English tons. Taking the average, 99 8 per cent. of the coal imported into Denmark during the past five years were derived directly from Great Britain.

The coal mines of SWEDEN yield but a scanty supply, and the coal itself is of a soft and laminated kind. Mr. AUDLEY GOSLING writes that a mine has long been worked at Hoganas, in Scania; and recently coal has been discovered about 6 English miles east of Landskrona. At the former the annual produce is about 30,000 tons, and at the latter the works have made but slow progress, and without great hopes of extensive development. About 500 hands find employment in these mines. The coal imported (about 320,000 tons annually) comes entirely from England, with small accidental exceptions. It is generally shipped in vessels chartered for return wood cargoes, which bring it out for a mere ballast freight. Coal is but little used in Sweden for domestic purposes, and it is only of late years that it has been employed at the larger ironworks and foundries. The great increase in the consumption of coal and coke is to be attributed to the general burning of gas in all the large towns; its introduction at the capital dates only as far back as 1856. Within the last ten years coal has been used for steam-vessels, previous to which wood and peat were employed. The steady increase in the number of cotton and other mills and factories where steam power has been introduced, and the rapid growth of the railway system, all tend to account for the increasing demand for coal.

No coal fields are, writes Mr. G. F. B. JENNER, at the present moment being worked in GREECE; neither has any coal, properly so called, been as yet discovered. Lignite has, however, been found to exist in considerable quantities at Oropo and Marcopulos, to the north-east of continental Greece; at Limni, on the Argolic coast; on the isthmus of Corinth; in the neighbourhood of Kalavrita; and especially at Koumi, in the Euboea, where the Government has at different periods carried on mining operations. The importation of coal in 1864 amounted to 64,868 tons. The condition of the country, and its very limited resources, render highly improbable the establishment, at least for the present, of any extensive manufactories; we may, therefore, assume that for many years to come the importation of coal into Greece will not attain any great importance.

With regard to PORTUGAL, the report of Mr. R. LYTTON is concise, and much to the point. He states that there are not in Portugal a dozen coal fields that can be described as actively productive. Coal is worked in the district of Oporto, at San Pedro da Cova, at Everdosa, at Gens, and at Midoea Corvellos. San Pedro da Cova produces from 10,000 to 12,000 metrical tons of anthracite, all of which is consumed at Oporto, and almost exclusively consumed for domestic purposes. There is in the district of Coimbra a coal field producing lignite, but it is very slowly worked, and does not yield more than 2000 to 3000 tons annually. In the district of Leiria there are (at Porto do Moz, Alcanadae e Chao Preto, Spite, Barreira, and Carvalho das Mentiras) mines producing both coal and iron, which seem likely in time to yield considerable quantities of lignite, but the working of these mines is at present very insufficiently developed. There are also in the district of Aveiro (at Monte dos Canadinhos, Pijao, and Pedorido), near the Douro, some anthracite mines, which are not yet in active operation, and of which the value appears to be insignificant. The annual importation is about 120,000 metrical tons, and is annually increasing—all is derived from Great Britain.

The coal production of the NETHERLANDS is practically nil. In the report of Sir R. F. TURING, forwarded by Sir J. R. MILBANK, it is remarked that the only Dutch colliery in work is in the province of Limburg, and produces annually only about 18,000 tons of coal of very inferior description. The imports in 1864 were—From Prussia, 921,000; Belgium, 179,000; Great Britain, 242,000; and other countries, 16,000. Notwithstanding the great development in the consumption of coal in the Netherlands the imports from Great Britain have decreased, which must principally be ascribed to the opening up of rich coal fields in the neighbouring Prussian province of Westphalia.

In SWITZERLAND the oldest traces of carboniferous formation are confined almost exclusively to the Central and Western Alps, where the beds of anthracite coal are developed, and have been worked at different times on a considerable scale; it contains no sulphur, and is consequently useful for many purposes mixed with real coal or wood. Slate coal belonging to the interglacial formation of the diluvium is found in the cantons of Zurich, Vaud, and St. Gall, in a wet and greenish state; it loses one-third of its weight by drying. Real coal has only been found in the cantons of Berne, Fribourg, and the Valais. Slight traces of the same formation have been discovered near the summit of the Tödi, in the canton of Glarus, but at too great a height to admit even of experimental boring the brown coal found. Switzerland is situated in close proximity to the coal fields of Germany and France, and the introduction of railways have facilitated the import of coal. In 1864 the import was 288,501 colliers, or 212,334 tons, the supply being derived from France, 268,126 colliers; Zollverein, 19,149; Austria, 1074; and Italy (turf and peat), 152 colliers.

THE GOLD AND SILVER MINES OF COLORADO, NEVADA, &c.

Now that the clouds have dispersed which concealed the developments during the war of the material wealth of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, evidences flow in upon us of remarkable discoveries, development, and product of mineral wealth in the western portion of that country. That wealth lies in the gold and silver mines of Colorado, Nevada, Idaho, and Montana. As capital of this country has been asked for, and in some cases applied to, the extraction of the precious metals from the ores of those mines, and will be still further applied so soon as capitalists become convinced that investments will ensure a large return, increasing with time, we purpose to give from time to time, as it may reach us, reliable information which may in any manner affect the mining interests of our people in that country. The nearest to us, in time and distance, of the States which has assumed a prominence by the existence of gold and silver in large amounts in her midst, is the new State of Colorado, lying immediately west of the State of Kansas, on the Missouri River, and extending through the Rocky Mountains to Nevada, on the east boundary of California. We speak of Colorado as State, as, under the progress of the past year, the people have, by authority of Congress, decided to assume that self-supporting form of government, in place of the territorial (dependent), and she now only awaits the recognition of Congress to adopt it.

Since 1859 gold has been dug and mined to a vast extent in Colorado, and large fortunes accumulated. The beds of streams, after yielding immense sums, became practically exhausted, and the mines, or lodes, from which this gold was washed were taken hold of and developed. To these mines attention has been called by the large yields of gold from those which are worked, and the fine appearance of numerous others, which at cor-

responding depths appear as well, but which the want of capital has prevented like development.

The greater number of the mines which are now in successful operation, and are sending weekly large amounts of bullion to their owners in the Eastern States, are located in the immediate vicinity of Central City and Black Hawk, and are among the earliest discovered and to have capital applied to. These cities are about 40 miles west of Denver City, the capital of the State, and contains a population of from 4000 to 6000 persons, all of whom are engaged in mining, or its supporting branches of trade. Machine-shops and foundries, essential to keeping in order some 50 mills, and the steam-engines of some 200 mines, are here in successful operation, supplying with the stores almost all the material for mining purposes, and for repairing machinery. Many other portions of the State present the most favourable prospects, and possess numerous mines equally as good as those in this region, but the necessary amount of machinery, though going to them, has not yet, but in few instances, been erected; these few are prospering to expectations.

Last summer, discoveries and developments were made of silver mines, 25 miles south of Central City, which have yielded per ton over 600. in silver, and the ore of which assays in some cases as high as 4000. The mining region lies from 550 to 600 miles west of the Missouri River, from points on which (Atchison and Omaha) it is reached by a daily line of stages, taking 5 to 6 days for the journey. From Kansas City, Leavenworth, Atchison, St. Joseph, Nebraska City, Plattsmouth, Sioux City, and Omaha, constant communication is maintained across the plains of Kansas, Nebraska, and Colorado, by means of mule and ox trains, taking, according to the animal employed, 20 to 40 days. The means of transportation for the necessary machines and mining materials which companies may decide to send out themselves can always be procured at these places. These depots can be reached from all points of the United States by the Missouri River, and by railroads from the Mississippi River. From New York City these mining cities can be reached in 14 days. From Kansas City the Southern Pacific Railroad has been constructed over 60 miles, and some 40 miles in addition are nearly ready for use. From Omaha, the northern branch, or main trunk, is completed 40 miles, and both are being pushed rapidly towards Denver City, whence a branch road is to be completed in advance to Central City. When these roads are completed the means of living and the cost of mining materials, and consequently the expense of working the mines, will be very cheap. Since the close of the war, the prices of labour and material, which increased considerably during the war, have been rapidly approaching their normal condition.

Since the almost practical exhaustion of the "Placer" and "Galch gold diggings" the labour of the country has been applied to the development of the "lodes." These "lodes" are vertical veins, varying in width from 4 to 9 ft., and contain for variable depth quartz, or earth, which has yielded as high as 12 per ton, handsomely remunerating the owners. Below this quartz is found the pyritic ore, which yields as high as 40 per ton, and becomes richer the deeper it is mined. Difficulties have existed in regard to the extraction of all the gold in the ore, to such an extent that owners on reaching it have suspended operations to await the result of several new processes which during the past year have been put in operation, and are now showing their comparative value. So rich are these mines regarded that an immense amount of money and thought have been expended to secure an economical mode of extracting nearly all the gold, the successful operator feeling confident no better fortune could be desired. The most successful processes as yet heralded are those of ATWATER'S, KEITH'S, and LYON'S. ATWATER'S little is known, other than the gold is amalgamated by forcing the pulverised ore through melted lead. The gold and silver is extracted and sinks, while the earthy particles rise to the surface, and are scraped off.

KEITH'S process has been practised in Germany, but not with present success. The pulverised ore is passed through flames, by which the sulphur is driven off. The residuum is still further pulverised and brightened, and run over shaking tables covered with amalgamated copper plates, on which the gold is collected. By this process it is said \$200 per cord is obtained from ore from which only 100. (12 per ton) was secured by the best of other processes. LYON'S process is similar to the smelting process practised at Swansea, in Wales, and after numerous trials has succeeded beyond the expectations of the operators. During the first week in January the yield is affirmed to have been \$12,000 in gold, and at present it is \$2000. By this process, ore from which scarcely anything could be extracted, \$225 per ton has been saved.

A correspondent from New York writes:—"If these processes are what they are now generally believed to be, the coming spring will send property up amazingly in Colorado. What is now offered for \$200,000 or \$300,000 will be put at a million or two. When what is now offered low becomes high, the capitalists with you will jump at what they now hesitate about." If what is claimed for these processes be true, and the mines be as extensive and as rich as represented, holders of good property in Colorado will rejoice at having secured it, and the Government of the United States will see the treasury which will cancel with increasing speed their enormous public debt.

COAL IN RUSSIA.—The fact will be heard with surprise by the large number who have hitherto considered that the expansion of the Russian empire was necessarily limited by the lack of coal, that the coal resources of Russia are now shown to be considerably greater than even those of the United States. In the Oural district coal has been found in numerous places both on the west and east sides of the mountain chain, its value being greatly enhanced by the fact that iron is found in its immediate neighbourhood. There is an immense basin in the district, of which Moscow is the centre, covering an area of 120,000 square miles, nearly as large as the entire bituminous coal area of the United States. And there is the coal region of the Don, covering 18,000 square miles, and being, therefore, considerably larger than the anthracite region of Pennsylvania; as large as the whole of the bituminous coal area of British America, and more than half as large again as all the coal fields in the United Kingdom.

Besides the three coal regions above described (whose aggregate area equals all the coal fields of the United States, British North America, and Great Britain combined), coal has been discovered in the Caucasus, Crimea, Simbirsk, Ekatarinofski, and the steppes of the Kherson, in the government of Kief, and in Poland. These facts alone may materially interfere with the calculations which have been hazarded as to the probable duration of our coal supply for the world.

OIL FROM FOREIGN COAL.—During last week Mr. Thomas Strange, mineral oil engineer, of Mold, North Wales, was engaged in London experimenting with foreign coals for oil manufacturing purposes. The report employed, we are informed, was "Strange's Improved," with a new kind of condenser, and the oil produced was of good quality, and a fair yield, which is placed in the hands of a scientific analytical chemist. The report, which is made to test as little as 14 lbs. to 28 lbs., now stands erected in London, and

that Mr. Crookes should explain the principles upon which his process is alleged to act, and thus remove the impression so rapidly gaining ground that the sodium process will add another failure to the already numerous list in connection with Gold Mining in Wales.

REPORT FROM NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM.

MARCH 1.—The shipping trade in the north-eastern ports continues extremely dull, and freights are still low, but it is expected this will be only temporary, and that an improvement will shortly take place. The London Coal Trade has partially recovered from the late depression, and prices are again rising. The demand for coke and manufacturing coal continues good, and the demand for steam coal is also improving. The Harbour of Blyth is to be deepened, and otherwise much improved, the shipment of coal there having increased much during the past year, and it is expected that this increase will continue to progress as the royalties of Woodhorn, and others adjoining, will shortly be opened. The last batch of collieries belonging to the West Hartlepool Company are to be sold in Newcastle on March 27, consisting of the Coxhoe, Heugh Hall, and Kelloe Collieries. In the present state of the coal trade they will, no doubt, sell readily enough, and bring good prices. The ill-fated Hartlepool Company will now pursue a quiet course, as a part of the Great North-Eastern system; and as it is now free from the incubus which has so long oppressed it, and as a good traffic, sufficient to ensure constant employment, is certain, a career of prosperity will come to this line, as it has to most of the lines in England. The North-Eastern, and all its branches, are yearly increasing, so far as traffic and dividends are concerned, and the Hartlepool line, in the end, will form no exception to this rule.

The Blyth and Tyne Company half-yearly meeting was held on Monday, and, as might be expected from the state of the coal trade during the past six months, the line continues to prosper. Further extensions are talked of, and will be carried out by-and-by. The directors do not appear to be very anxious to extend the line to Newcastle at once, but this cannot long be delayed, as the coal works are extending in that direction. The royalty at Woodhorn, north of the present collieries at North Seaton, is in the market, and will shortly be taken up, and the coal traffic, in addition to the passenger traffic to the rising watering place at Newbiggar, will give ample and profitable employment to a railway. The Central Northumbrian Railway is also expected to be constructed as far north as Rothbury in 12 months from the present time, the contracts having all been let on that portion of the line, and thus the Coquet Vale will be opened for coal and lime traffic, and possibly also for the iron ore found there. As the Blyth and Tyne is connected with this line, it will at a distant day form an important feeder to it.

The Iron Trade, as the year advances, improves, and the prices now received are much better than at the commencement of the year. The latest quotations at Middlesbrough are from 58s. 6d. to 59s. 6d. cash. No. 1, g.m.b., 60s. 6d.; No. 3, 58s. 6d. The make of iron cannot be expected to be very materially increased during the present year, as the supply of coal and coke is limited. The continued disturbances in the labour market also tend to cripple masters, and destroy the confidence both of old and new speculators. The yearly "bindings" were proceeded with at many of the Wear collieries on Saturday last, but the men have not entered into them generally. At most this is only regarded as a preliminary hiring day, and the great bulk of the men will, we believe, reserve themselves for the usual time when this hiring is entered into. It is not expected that any important changes will be made this year; on the whole, both parties appear to be well content with the present rates and arrangements.

At a general and special meeting to-day of the members of the North of England Institute of Mining Engineers some important business was transacted. This meeting was a special one, for the election of a President, in the place of the late Mr. Nicholas Wood, and for the alteration of one of the rules. Mr. I. L. Bell proposed that the President to be elected this day shall occupy the chair two years—that is, until Aug. 1867, future Presidents to remain in office two complete years. The President, after completing his term, to be for one year afterwards *ex officio* a member of the council, and after the expiration of one year out of office he is to again eligible for the office of President. Mr. T. E. Forster was elected President by a very large majority, and on taking the chair he thanked the members for the honour conferred upon him, and remarked that he does not expect to do so much for the Institute as the late President, but that he shall do what he can for them. A very lengthy paper by Mr. W. Green, entitled "The Chronicle and Record of the Northern Coal Trade," was placed on the table, and ordered to be printed; it consists mainly of statistics, but contains much information of a valuable character. Mr. I. L. Bell introduced a subject of much importance to the society—the extension of its objects and views, so as to embrace mechanical and general manufacturing subjects not strictly allied to coal mining. A good deal of discussion ensued on this subject, and the consideration of it was postponed until a future time, when it will again be resumed, after being submitted, in the first place, to the council. Mr. Bell remarked that the Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle, which for a long period was the medium by which scientific men in the North published their ideas and views, has for a considerable period been changing its character, and gradually becoming a purely literary society; and he, therefore, recommends that the Mining Institute should occupy this vacant ground, and not only enter upon an extended sphere of usefulness, but also confer a great benefit upon the manufacturing interest in the North, which is very extensive, particularly the chemical, and other manufactures. The subject will, no doubt, require much discussion, and, as it deserves, will receive a considerable amount of attention.

PRESENTATION TO MR. GEORGE ROBERT STEPHENSON.—A gratifying illustration of the happy relations existing between employer and employed was afforded at Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Monday, by the presentation to Mr. G. R. Stephenson, the head of the eminent engineering establishment in that city, of an exquisite silver salver, claret jug, and goblet, subscribed for by all his workmen employed at the engine manufactory. The spokesman deputed to make the presentation dwelt in forcible and well-expressed terms of gratitude upon the unwearied interest and solicitude displayed by Mr. Stephenson in the welfare of those in his employ: and that gentleman in a brief address, replete with good taste and feeling, acknowledged the compliment, and intimated his intention of contributing the munificent sum of 500*£* to the sick fund of the men connected with his establishment.

REPORT FROM SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW, FEB. 28.—The English speculators are persevering in their adverse course, and although the PIG-IRON market between Friday and yesterday declined 7*s.* a ton, a slight reaction is again apparent, and prices are firm at the advance; in fact, the market is altogether in the hands of speculators, and it is reported on "Change to-day" that they have forwarded more money, with the view of keeping the price in their own hands for three months from this date. BAR-IRON remains entirely in the same condition as last reported, with few orders offering. Many of the works are preparing to go on short time, all on account of this villainous move by a clique of moneyed outsiders. Shipping orders which were sent here have been removed to Staffordshire and Wales, simply because of the high price of raw material, and makers regard the spring trade as lost. Iron-founding is dull, and what will make matters worse, is their resolution to advance the price 10*s.* a ton from March 1. This will make railway chairs 5*s.* to 5*s.* 5*d.* and pipes 5*s.* 5*d.* to 7*s.* Other quotations unchanged. At a sale of 9000 tons of pig-iron—Eglinton and Muirkirk brands—the price realised was 62*s.* 6*d.* to 63*s.* 6*d.* a ton. The lots were taken for consumption—hence the price.

The shipments of PIG-IRON from the Scotch ports for last week were 11,243 tons, against 10,781 tons last year; total this year, 73,806 tons; decrease, 12,547 tons. The market has fluctuated severely since this day week; opening at 7*s.* on Thursday, the price rapidly advanced, and as high as 78*s.* 6*d.* cash was paid on Friday; since then, a fall of 6*s.* 6*d.* per ton has taken place, 72*s.* cash having been accepted yesterday. To-day opened very strong, 72*s.* up to 73*s.* 9*d.* cash; 73*s.* to 74*s.* 7*d.* a month, paid for a large quantity, closing strong, with buyers at the top.

The COAL TRADE is very buoyant, and prices have been slightly advanced since our last. The shipments also indicate an advancing consumption, 11,370 tons having been shipped for the week ending yesterday, against 10,780 tons in the corresponding week of 1865. According to the result of the Miners' Conference, held here on Monday last, the colliers are very largely adopting the eight-hours restriction, without almost let or hindrance on the part of the masters. It will take some months to show the effect of this restriction on the shipments of the article, and it may be possible—nay, is quite likely—that under advancing wages, and restricted hours of labour, several of our going collieries will have to be stopped, as they can barely be worked now with a profit. In the meantime, the miners seem quite ecstatic with the progress that is being made by their friends to bring them into a "land flowing with milk and honey." They will, however, first have to "eat of the fruit of their own doings," in the shape of restricted wages for their restricted output, which cannot fail to tell on families which are not by any means, as a rule, provident dealt with at the best. From the 30 or 40 different districts the most glowing accounts of the effect of the eight-hours day was received, with only one or two exceptions; and, as these came from the shire of Clackmannan, the county was honoured by being put on the "strike roll," and the men at the colliery having the smallest stock of coal to operate upon were to strike at once for eight hours a day, and 6*s.* advance. The Stevenson and Carfin men were still out on strike, and the latter were reported as likely to be ejected from their houses, as writs had been issued for that purpose by Mr. Dixon. At Coatbridge, that great rendezvous for all classes of miners, meetings had been held almost nightly for some time past. Mr. Rooney, who has been deputed to address them, showed how successful other districts had been in obtaining both the advance and the reduction of their hours of labour, and concluded by asking them to show their employers that they were in earnest, by taking a few idle days to consider over matters, which would enable the employers to consider also, and gave a few practical illustrations as to the effect such a course of action would have at the present time. The secretary, Mr. Donald, followed, and, of course, went further. He recommended that if the "few idle days" had no effect "they

should give in their warning on Saturday first." And continued—"I do not advocate strikes [not bell], they do no good; but we have often resorted to such to accomplish our object (!). You will observe, men, that by your working at 6*s.* less a day than other districts—Garthdee with its 400, and Rosehill with as many more—is 10*s.* per week of a loss to yourselves. Think of that. (Cheers.) So be prompt in action; and I may tell you, as soon as you get the 6*s.* per day, according to present labour, we in the Glasgow district will move onward for the same rate of wages at the short-time movement. We will pioneer you on if you keep true." The business of the Conference was brought to a close with the announcement that at the next meeting—a fortnight hence—measures would be taken to have the wages of the coal and ironstone miners assimilated.

Three legal cases, of some importance to the coal and iron trades, were disposed of last week. The official liquidator of the Goebel Hematite Company, is, by the authority of the First Division of the Court of Session, to get possession of the books and papers of the company in the possession of John Andrew, solicitor, London, who claims a lien over them of 70*s.* The liquidator is to find security for the amount, so that if the claim turns out well founded it will be paid out of the assets. A trial by jury took place before Lord Jerviswoode, on Friday, at the instance of Agnes Wilson and her children, residing in Wishaw, against D. and J. Sneddon, coal masters there. The husband and father of the joint pursuers having been employed in pit No. 6, on the Cambusnethan estates, was precipitated to the bottom by the breaking of the rope used for raising the workmen to the surface, on March 31, 1865, and killed, through the fault of the defenders, to the injury, loss, and damage of the pursuers. The widow claimed 20*s.*, and the four children each claimed 10*s.* of damages. Counsel having been heard at great length, the jury retired, and, after an absence of 20 minutes, they returned with a unanimous verdict in favour of the pursuers, modified, however, to the following sum:—Mrs. Wilson, 17*s.*; to each of the children, 5*s.*—In the Glasgow Sheriff Court, before Mr. Sheriff Bell, the proprietor of Blackfoulds, Easter Cardowan, craved interdict against Andrew Yeats and Co., in the following circumstances. In the year 1862 the proprietor entered into an agreement with Yeats and Co., that they should have the privilege of exploring the coal seam in the lands of Easter Cardowan, on the understanding that, if satisfied, they should lease the same; with the further proviso that after the coal in the lands in question were wrought out, they should be allowed to bring to bank, by the same shaft, the coal in the adjoining lands, on the payment of 1*s.* per ton for way-leave. After exploring the lands of the complainants, they intimated their satisfaction to the proprietor, and offered to lease the same, but sought, before doing so, to continue their explorations into the lands of Gartshiegh by road way through the pursuer's grounds. To this Mr. Johnston, of Blackfoulds, objected, and craved interdict; and Sheriff Bell, in an extended note, after having heard both parties' procurators, granted interim interdict as craved.

The beautiful marine residence of the late Sir James Anderson has been purchased for 10,000*£* by Mr. W. McLeish, of the firm of P. and W. McLeish, iron merchants, Glasgow. It is situated on the Gareloch, a short distance from West Shandon, the seat of Mr. Robert Napier, shipbuilder.

The Messrs. Inglis launched from their building-yard at Pointhouse a neat little vessel of 400 tons for the River Plate traffic. She is constructed to draw only about 8 feet of water, and has been named the *Cosmos*.

Messrs. Williams Connal and Co., with reference to the Pig-iron Trade of the month, write:—"The maturing of heavy open contracts, for which in some cases the iron had not been provided, caused the market to be very excited and uncertain all the month, and the price steadily inclined upwards, until it reached, on the 23d, 79*s.* cash, drooping fully 4*s.* next day, and closing at our quotations. The quantity of iron in Connal and Co.'s yards is 378,142 tons, and there are warrants circulating for 361,000 tons."

EXPLOSIVE GASES IN MINES—THEIR DETECTION.

Last week an explosion of gas took place in one of the Scottish coal mines, at a place called Greenfield, near the town of Hamilton, Lanarkshire, when two working miners and an underground manager were burned about the head, face, arms, &c. It is to be regretted that accidents of a serious, and sometimes of a fatal, nature continue to occur, from the explosion of gases in mines, when instruments of a very simple and effective kind may be had, at little cost, by which the presence of these gases may be detected. At a recent meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain we were glad to notice, from a paper read by a Mr. Mackay, that the ingenuity of Mr. G. F. Ansell, of the Royal Mint, had been successfully drawn to the subject, and that he suggested several forms of apparatus for detecting the presence of explosive or dangerous gases in coal mines. Although the discovery was fully described in the *Mining Journal* of October 28 and November 4 last year, Mr. Mackay's account is so concise and explicit that we may again mention the subject. Mr. Mackay stated that the principle on which these were constructed was in accordance with the well-known chemical law in connection with the diffusion of gases. That gases gradually mix through porous septa, and even through some materials which do not appear to possess any interstices through which elastic fluids might pass, is well known. On this fact an instrument was constructed, composed of a glass tube, of the form of the letter U, into which a certain quantity of mercury had been placed, so as to cover the bend, and rise a certain height in each limb. One extremity of this tube had another of a larger size attached, and covered in with a piece of porous tile; while in the other end of the bent tube two wires form a galvanic current dipped, near to the surface of the mercury, but not immersed in it. The whole was placed in a large glass jar, to represent the "pit" or place in which the instrument was to be placed for use. In the event of there being an escape of fire-damp, the law just referred to would come into operation, and as the carbonised hydrogen would diffuse through the septa, the pressure in the one stem of the U-tube would be increased, and thus force the column of mercury higher up in the other side, which would then reach the two galvanic wires, and by completing the circuit, send a current of electricity through the coils of wire on a horse-shoe magnet, which having an electric bell attached, would sound the note of danger loud and clear. This instrument is so delicate and true, that in 45 seconds the effect may be produced. At the conclusion Mr. Mackay stated, what is of great advantage to be widely known, that such an apparatus, as well as another form for determining not only the presence but the quantity of fire or choke-damp, had been practically tried in several mines, and given great satisfaction.

REPORT FROM MONMOUTH AND SOUTH WALES.

MARCH 1.—The realisation of the expected reduction in the rate of discount, mentioned in last week's report, has had a favourable effect upon the trade of South Wales, and should the price of money become still more easy, makers' books will be in a tolerably good position as regards orders. The fact that iron masters were enabled to maintain current prices for nails and bars, and other descriptions of iron, while money was so high, is proof that the business hitherto transacted has not been of a speculative character. The works are kept pretty well employed, and matters are assuming a more cheering aspect, as compared with a fortnight ago. From the accounts received it is certain that the stocks on hand, both at home and abroad, are low, and, therefore, the opinion is warranted that the close of the present quarter, or the beginning of the new one, will see a more prosperous state of affairs than has been since the commencement of the new year. There is a steady amount of trade doing on American account, but the contracts from that country continue to come in irregularly. There is an opinion prevalent that the proposed increased import duties will not affect finished iron, but according to the advices recently received, there are no grounds to justify that idea, and it is quite uncertain what phase the agitation will assume. There are a few orders under hand for the Eastern markets, and whilst the present state of trade with India is of a general satisfactory character, there is no doubt of specifications coming in more freely as the year advances. Some shipments have taken place for Mexico during the past week. There is no alteration to note in the South American markets; they are taking a very fair quantity, which would be largely increased if it were not for the obstruction caused by the Spanish blockade. On continental account the enquiry remains about the same. The advance in the price of North of England pigs, consequent on the extraordinary speculative movement in Scotch pigs, has led to an increased enquiry for Welsh pigs from Staffordshire, and quotations are firmer. The market is a little easier for coke and other inferior qualities of tin-plates, but there is a very good demand for best charcoal, with an upward tendency in prices. The improvement noticed last week in the Steam Coal Trade continues, and proprietors are exporting considerable quantities. The operations at the several ports are actively carried on; shippers taking advantage of the present favourable wind for dispatching vessels seaward as quickly as possible. The inland trade, which is principally to the metropolis and Birkenhead, is gradually extending itself. The slight movement in house coal is also sustained, and the cold weather will cause still further increased consumption.

The following local bills have been read a second time in the House of Commons:—The Newport Borough, the Wye Valley Railway, the Llynvi Valley and the Cymore Valley Railway Companies, the Llynvi Valley Railway, the Neath New Gas, and the Mid-Wales Railway. The following bills have been read a third time, and passed:—Aberdare and Caerphilly Junction Railway, Brynmawr Gas, and Ely Valley and Vale of Neath Junction Railways.

During the week several local railway companies have held their meetings, amongst which were the Vale of Neath, at which a dividend at the rate of 5*s.* per annum was declared, and the retiring directors, Messrs. N. V. E. Vaughan, T. Gibson, and F. S. Head, re-elected. The Aberdare Railway declared a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum. At the Penarth Harbour Dock and Railway Company a dividend of 13*s.* per cent. per annum was declared, and Messrs. H. J. Evans, H. B. Insole, and J. Nixon re-elected directors. At the Merthyr, Tredegar, and Abercavenny Railway Messrs. C. Bailey, M.P., and Thomas Brown were re-elected directors, and a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum declared. The directors recommended the transference of the line to the present lessees—the London and North-Western Railway Company, they receiving in return for the capital expended a like amount in the London and North-Western 5 per cent. preference stock. As soon as the arrangements were completed a meeting of the shareholders would be called.

The judgment of the Tredegar magistrates, sitting in Special Petty Sessions, in the case of Mr. Lionel Brough, Her Majesty's Inspector of Mines v. the Tredegar Iron and Coal Company, was given on Friday. It will be remembered that the allegation against the company, which was the third of a series, was for allowing unlocked lamps to be used in the New Bedwelly Pit, thereby contributing to the late explosion, wherein 26 lives were lost. At the hearing, which took place on Jan. 22, Mr. Simons, who appeared for the Crown, contended that by the first general rule it was provided that whenever lamps were used in a colliery they should be invariably locked. That was the meaning of the Legislature in passing the Act. In those collieries, however, lamps had been given indiscriminately by the lamp-man to all applicants, and they were seldom or never locked. Had the lamps been locked, as required by the Act of Parliament, on the morning of the explosion the loss of life would not have happened. Mr. James, on behalf of the defendants, contended that it was only when lamps were required that the law demanded that they should be locked, and the occasions on which lamps were required had to be decided by the manager. In those collieries locked safety-lamps were not ordinarily required, and hence the sad occurrence was one which could not ordinarily be provided against. The Bench, on Friday, said that after carefully considering the whole matter they had come to the decision of dismissing the case. The whole of the decisions will be appealed against in the Court of Queen's Bench.

A very influential meeting of ironmasters, colliery proprietors, traders, and others was held on Tuesday, at the Castle Hotel, Neath (Mr. J. P. Budd in the chair), to adopt measures for obtaining an extension of the narrow gauge on the South Wales line. The Chairman pointed out the advantages of an uninterrupted gauge throughout the South Wales district. Mr. Strowe said that, although there would be no doubt that the broad gauge had rendered great service to that part of the country, and the traders were under great obligations to it, the public had given their thorough and unanimous verdict in favour of the narrow gauge. He had, as the representative of the English Copper Company at Cwmavon, to experience great inconvenience from there being two gauges, and great delay and expense occasioned thereby. Mr. George Grant Francis referred to the services rendered by the Messrs. Brodgen, of Tondu Works, who had laid down a narrow gauge line, and opened it out to the port at Portskewett. He believed that Mr. Joshua Williams, manager of the South Wales section of the Great Western, had reported in favour of the narrow gauge for South Wales, and that Mr. Talbot had given his decision in favour of it. Dr. Pritchard characterised the narrow gauge as the great highway of the kingdom, and said if the Great Western did not lay down the narrow gauge in all probability another company would come forward to do that which the traders required should be done. Mr. Brodgen also addressed the meeting, and in the course of his remarks said that his firm had offered to lay down the narrow gauge system on the present line as far as Newport. The money was guaranteed, and a percentage on that amount also guaranteed by an increased trade. The result of the meeting was the appointment of a committee and a deputation to wait upon the secretary of the Great Western, with the following memorial, which was signed by about 300 traders:—"The undersigned being deeply interested in the minerals, metals, and commerce of South Wales, desire respectfully to represent to the directors of the Great Western Railway Company the serious impediments, inconvenience, and loss the commerce of this district is sustaining in consequence of the broad gauge being in many cases wholly inappropriate to their wants, thus confining their communications to very circumscribed limits, arresting their operations, and consequently crippling their trade. The transfer of goods, in consequence of the break of gauge at every port and principal station between Milford and Gloucester, is expensive and tedious, entailing, moreover, constant delay in delivery, grievous disappointments, consequent annoyance, and often serious loss to both consigner and consignee. And as regards the great staple of this district—coal—such transfer (involving not only the expense of the operation, but the loss arising from the depreciation by breakage), becomes positively prohibitory. Coupled with these facts is that of the inability of the company to provide a sufficient broad gauge rolling stock, together with the known disqualification of the public and the various wagon builders to find it, from a conviction that sooner or later the narrow gauge will be provided. The effect of this is to exclude many extensive collieries and ironworks from a large trade which would necessarily pass over the South Wales Railway. The undersigned, therefore, desire strongly to represent that the early adoption of the narrow gauge along the whole of the South Wales line is imperatively called for by the necessities of the district."

The quotations of Welsh metals given by Messrs. Murrall and Stothert, of Cardiff, for March are—Soft pig-lead, W.C.O., 20*s.* 10*d.* f.o.b. Barry Port Works, 2*s.* 6*d.*; same brand, crown refined, 2*s.* 2*d.*; R.G. charcoal tin-plates, I.C., 3*s.* 3*d.* 3*s.* per cent. Pig-iron: Ynyscelyn antrachite, 3*s.* 1*d.* to 4*s.* according to numbers, 2*s.* 1*d.* or 4*s.* months. Sheet-iron: R.G. singles, doubles, trebles, and latents, 1*s.* 10*d.* to 1*s.* 7*d.*; and PEN., singles to latents, 1*s.* 10*d.* to 1*s.* 15*d.* differences for sorts 1*s.* 10*d.* and all f.o.b. Cardiff, 2*s.* 6*d.* per cent. dia.; R.G. puddled wire iron, 1*s.* 12*d.* to 1*s.* 12*d.* and 2*s.* per cent. dia.; PEN., fencing wire, 1*s.* 10*d.* to 1*s.* 11*d.*; Welsh bars, No. 2, 7*s.* to 7*s.* 5*d.* f.o.b. Wales, 3*s.* 3*d.* per cent. dia.; ditto, delivered in Birmingham and district, 7*s.* 10*d.* for a good specification, say 50 to 100 tons of a size, 2*s.* 6*d.* per ton less; Welsh rails, 7*s.* 10*d.* to 7*s.* 10*d.* net; Welsh angle

THE MINING JOURNAL.

would probably cause the hole which had been made in the tuyeres, and which led to the explosion. As the evidence appeared to cast some degree of reflection on the conduct of the manager of the furnace, Abraham Wallitt, the enquiry was further adjourned, for the purpose of affording him an opportunity of making an explanation he might think proper. Mr. Hickman had caused the furnace to be put out of blast, and had done everything he could to afford an opportunity for a full examination of the cause of the accident.

A very sad and singular circumstance has occurred at Tipton on Nov. 29. A miner, named Daniel Ford, aged 40, of Prince's End, who worked in one of the pits of Lord Dudley, in the parish of Sedgley, mysteriously disappeared. His wife, who was left with three children to provide for, after vainly endeavouring to find him, was forced to throw herself upon the bounty of the parish. From information which reached her, she suspected that he might have fallen down an old uncovered shaft which existed close to the pit where he worked, and that the body might be found if a search were instituted. The doggy and butties of the pit, however, refused to institute an examination, but she laid her case before Mr. Frederick Smith, agent of Earl Dudley, and with kind attention Mr. Smith directed the overseers of the pit to prosecute a search. The deposit which had been continually thrown down from the pit bank into the old shaft was removed to a depth of 25 yards, without any successful result, and further search was then deemed useless. The unfortunate woman afterwards succeeded in raising the sum of £1, with which she engaged two excavators to clear the remainder of the deposit. These came, on Wednesday last, upon the body of the man, who had clearly fallen down accidentally, his breakfast being found by his side. The inquest has been adjourned.

DERBYSHIRE, YORKSHIRE, AND LANCASHIRE.

MARCH 1.—The Iron Trade in Derbyshire, as well as in Yorkshire, is in the same active state which has characterised it for some time past. At the large works in North Derbyshire there is a good demand for nearly all qualities of iron, rails and ship plates, as well as bars, being largely manufactured. What are known as the Peak Mines are not doing a great deal just now, but are pushing forward so as to be able to make a good output shortly. The shares of most of them are at rather low-water mark, the Peak Forest being the only one quoted at anything like par, whilst the Eyam, Mill Dam, and Peak United are at a considerable discount. The shareholders, however, or most of them, have not lost faith in the productive power of the mines, and of their ultimately turning out profitable. Notwithstanding the unfavourable character of the quotations, there are but few share changing hands, and holders are acting wisely in not selling out, as there is a very fair prospect of most of the mines turning out remunerative. The business done in coal is very good, considering the open character of the season, and the Midland Company are carrying a large tonnage to the metropolis and other southern markets. The rolling mills are kept fully going, and the large orders at present in hand for armour-plates are likely to turn out the precursors of still larger ones, not only for England, but for foreign consumption, as the builders on the Thames are understood to have entered into some extensive contracts for heavy-plated vessels. The Sheffield trade is good in nearly all its branches, heavy goods in particular, being in request, the foreign orders being large. The export of goods during the past month will turn out large, the American element figuring largely as the principal consumer. In South Yorkshire there is the same activity, the large orders on hand at some of the principal firms for India and America ensuring full work for a considerable time to come. Ship-plates and rails are in good request, as also bars and rods.

The puddlers at the Elsecar Works, following in the wake of some of their brethren in the Northern district, have been out for a few days, on the grounds that they were unable to work the iron they had on hand the same as usual. On Tuesday, however, work was resumed by nearly all the men. The demand for coal is without much alteration, the "hard," for steam purposes, meeting with a good sale for Leeds and the district, as well as for Goole, Hull, and Grimsby. Increased facilities having been afforded at the last-named port for shipment to Holland and the North of Europe, a large tonnage is now being sent there. The enquiry for house coal is limited, but the change in the weather during the past few days is likely to increase the demand. For Lancashire, Sheffield, and other manufacturing towns a good business is being done in engine coal and slack. Coke meets with a ready sale, and no stocks are allowed to accumulate, as the ironworks in Lincolnshire, Derbyshire, and Yorkshire take all that can be made in the district. In North Yorkshire masters are encountering great difficulties with their men, who are making demands which in some cases are not warranted by the position of the trade. The blast furnacemen at the extensive works of Messrs. Boileau and Vaughan are out on strike; but, as it was decided at a private meeting of the ironmasters to submit the dispute to a committee having power to hear both the masters' view and the grounds upon which the workmen claimed the advance, the evil of a continued strike has been prevented. The committee took every pains to investigate the whole of the circumstances of the case, and the result of their decision was that a considerable advance, amounting, we believe, to about 15 per cent., was offered to Messrs. Boileau and Vaughan's workmen. Instead of there being any disposition on the part of the ironmasters to resist the demands of the workmen without further enquiry, there was every disposition manifested to consider the workmen's claim in a dispassionate manner. The iron shipbuilders of Middlesbrough are also out, their demand being for a reduction of the working hours to nine per day. They had a meeting on Wednesday, which was attended by upwards of 600, when a resolution as to whether they would resume work at 25 hours per week, or stand out for nine hours per day, was put to the meeting, when the latter part of the proposition was agreed to. The dispute at Sheffield in the file trade, is likely to terminate as many similar disputes have done, by the introduction of machinery, a company, comprising the leading men of the trade, having been started for that purpose.

In the neighbourhood of Sheffield several new collieries are about to be commenced. An addition is also to be made to the number of lead mines in the Peak district, for which a considerable number of shares have already been subscribed. It is to be called the Moss Rake Mining and Lead Ore Smelting Company, and is to have a capital of £400,000. In the present state of the lead mines in Derbyshire the promoters are certainly to be congratulated for their spirit.

At Manchester and Liverpool there is a good business in coal and iron. On Wednesday, an explosion took place at the Bryn Moss Collieries, worked by Messrs. Entwistle and Whittle, and situated in the township of Ashton, about half-a-mile on the Wigwam side of Messrs. Mercer and Evans' pits, where a few weeks ago thirty persons lost their lives in a similar occurrence. At the colliery in question two seams are worked—the "Four-feet" and the "Five-feet" coal. It was in the first of these mines that the explosion occurred about an hour after the 100 men who were employed had settled fairly to work. A collier named Adamson and his drawer are believed to be the only persons who have sustained serious injuries. The other persons who were burned were day labourers, who were working near the main air-way.

A sad accident befell Mr. Featherstone, the surgeon to the Butterley Company, on Monday. His servant was driving him near the level crossing of the railway, when an express train came up and dashed into the vehicle, killing him on the spot. He had a salary of £600 per annum from the company as surgeon to the works.

The shareholders in the firm of Oliver and Company (Limited) engineers, Chesterfield, held their first annual meeting at the Angel Hotel, Chesterfield, on Monday, when a very satisfactory statement of accounts and report were read. A dividend of 10 per cent. for the year was declared, and a balance carried forward. The future prospects of the firm are very encouraging. They have been entrusted with most of the engineering work at several of the concerns in the neighbourhood, and we have heard their work highly spoken of. The Sheepbridge Company are very busy, and their four furnaces are in full blast. They supply an excellent pig-iron for armour-plate making, nearly the whole of the iron from these works having been used in the manufacture of the plates which were successfully tested some time ago.

Mr. Joseph Wells, owner of the Bramley Moor Pit, at Eckington, was summoned for not having fenced off a fly-wheel, as required by the Act, and for the non-observance of other portions of the general rules. Mr. Evans, the Government Inspector, was the prosecutor, for whom Mr. Husby, coroner, appeared; and Mr. Potter, of Rotherham, was for Mr. Wells. After a long examination, Mr. Wells was fined in the nominal penalty of £1, and costs for having the wheel unprotected, and the other cases were adjourned by mutual consent.

TERMINATION OF THE COLLIES' STRIKE AT ROCHDALE.—Yesterday afternoon the colliers, numbering about 400, who have been out on strike for the last month at the works of Messrs. Fishwick, Rosco, and Scott, had an interview with their employers, and agreed to resume work to-day at the same prices that they were paid previously. The extra demand was £1. for every quarter, or 20 loads, but it was refused by the employers.

THE QUESTION OF INTIMIDATION OF COLLIES.—At the Court House, Wakefield, on Thursday, a collier, named William Allatt, who was a member of the Miners' Union, was charged with using a threat which came within the meaning of the Act George IV., sec. 5, c. 129, which says that every person shall be deemed liable to a penalty who shall endeavour to force any manufacturer or employer to make any alteration in his mode of regulating his business. It appeared that on Feb. 19 a deputation of colliers employed by the Balclutha Coal Company, at West Ardsley Pit, waited upon the steward, and gave him a note, stating that unless all the men joined the Miners' Union the unionists would take means to make them. Mr. Shaw, the counsel for the prosecution, contended that this was a threat; Mr. Waddy, for the defence, contended that it was only a lawful intimidation. The Bench took the former view of the case, and sentenced the defendant to one month's imprisonment. The same defendant was sentenced to a similar term of imprisonment for using violence to another collier, with a view to prevent him continuing at his work.

FOREIGN PRESERVED MEAT AS CHEAP AND WHOLESALE FOOD.—The apprehensions not unreasonably engendered by the Cattle Plague, that at some not far distant time meat will be rendered quite a rarity in the market, has induced a few gentlemen to endeavour to promote the introduction of beef and mutton cured in Australia and America, by the process invented by Mr. Morgan, of the Veterinary College, Dublin, which essentially consists in treating the whole carcass of the animal by injecting into the arteries the curing mixtures, such as salt, sausages, and sugar. In order to give the public the opportunity of testing the practical value of the invention, some casts of beef and mutton, cured by the process referred to, have been imported from Monte Video, and a number of gentlemen invited to Messrs. Keeling and Hunt's, of Monument-yard, to taste samples of the meat cooked under the superintendence of Mr. Warriner, late inspector of the culinary department of the army. The samples for tasting were said to be taken from the bulk, haphazard, not selected as being the most favourable specimens of what had been imported. The invitation was responded to by the attendance of a large number of persons, and the samples produced and tasted seemed generally to be considered satisfactory as very favourable examples of meat salted to keep a great length of time. The promoters of this undertaking confidently hope that the meat will be sold retail at 4d. or 4½d. per lb.; but there seems some little difficulty in the matter, by reason of the retailers seeking to grasp at a large per centage of profit, and the real solution of this difficulty is likely to involve what Mr. Keeling stated to the meeting was highly desirable—the establishment, as in Glasgow, of public kitchens, from which the labouring classes may obtain food ready cooked at something, but little, in advance of the wholesale price.

MANCHESTER GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The monthly meeting of members was held in the Peter-street Museum, on Tuesday.—Mr. E. W. BINNEY, the President, in the chair. Mr. DICKINSON called attention to a Blue-book published by the Government on the coal supply of the United Kingdom and foreign countries. He had not seen the original book, only the newspaper abstracts, and it was pretty evident from those that the book contained some serious mistakes. For instance, it was stated that the coal fields of Lancashire were only half the thickness of those in South Wales, whereas the Lancashire field was one of the thickest in the kingdom, and much deeper than those in Wales. The nearest in thickness were those of Shropshire and North Staffordshire. Then, as to the probable output of the coal fields, the statements were equally unreliable; some persons limited it to 100, and others to 1000 years. All such statements were mere guesses; and he (Mr. Dickinson) believed there was no ground for apprehending that our coal supplies would be exhausted for at all events a very considerable period.

Mr. PLANT said he had read the book in question, and found it full of errors.—The CHAIRMAN said the supply would always be to a great extent dependent upon the cost of obtaining it. There was abundance of coal if they could only go deep enough; but there could be no question that serious inroads had been made upon the coal fields of this district in the last 30 years.—Mr. DICKINSON thought much of the coal that might be found was inaccessible on account of the difficulty arising from the water, and consequent expense of working. People would, therefore, get coal where it was easiest to be procured.

The CHAIRMAN called attention to some specimens of vegetable fossils found by Mr. Winsch, the vice-president of the Glasgow Geological Society, in a bed of volcanic ash situated near Lagan Bay, in the Isle of Arran. The stone in which the fossils were embedded appeared like an ordinary piece of whinstone, and the fossils in such a stratum were evidently novel. They appeared to be *sigillaria*, *lepidodendron*, *lepidostrobus*, &c., and they had grown in a marine habitat, and had been enveloped with ash from an adjoining volcano. It was singular that a countryman of Werner should have come to Scotland, the stronghold of the Huttonians, and found in their own country a rock which they would have claimed as plutonic, full of the remains of plants, in the position in which they grew. The rocks were, no doubt, subsequently subjected to great heat, for the coal found in them was an antracite.—Mr. DICKINSON thought the samples were of whinstone, such as were commonly found in Scotland, and not volcanic ash.

Mr. J. PLANT read a very able paper "On the Geology and Fossils of the Primordial Zone, in the Gold Districts of North Wales." The locality to which the paper related was in the neighbourhood of Tyddyd-gwladys, about eight miles north of Dolgellau, and the class of rocks were the lingula flags, lying above the Cambrians. A few months ago Mr. PLANT reported on the discovery of a rare trilobite, *paradoxides*, found in that neighbourhood by a young friend of his, Mr. Ezekiel Williamson, recently a pupil in the geological class of the Salford Working Men's College. Mr. Williamson had gone out as a miner into the gold district of Wales, and had pursued his studies there with such success as to add corrections to the geology of the district, as laid down by such eminent men as Sir Roderick Murchison and Prof. Sedgwick. He had also in many very important particulars corrected the Geological Survey, and shown that 39 species of fossils might be added to the three only which were known to the Survey before he commenced his labours. Some of the specimens, such as the *sao*, were the first that had been discovered in this country, and the majority were similar to species found in Canada, Bohemia, Scandinavia, and other countries where the primordial zone occurs. Mr. PLANT, who had arranged and named the fossils, divided the Lingula flags into the lower, middle, and upper beds. The latter yielded the largest amount of fossils; and in the lower beds were found many fragments of the *paradoxides*, *Davidis* and *agnostus*. He said it was a singular circumstance that not a fragment of a crustacean of the character enumerated in the Geological Survey had been discovered, though many tons of slate had been blasted and examined. He considered that there was reason to believe that there were great additions to be made to the list of fossils which had been brought before the meeting. In the lowest bed of slate of the lower division were specimens of a sponge, two minute shells, *obolella*, *anapolemus*, *agnostus*, and *paradoxides Hickiei*. In the next bed of slate, also belonging to the lower division, were *microdiscus* and more *agnostus*. In the next bed was nothing but fragments of the great *paradoxides*. In the fifth bed of slate were small *agnostus*, *olenos*, *caracta*, which were abundant, a *petraria*, and a *bryozoan*. In the middle Lingula beds the old *lingula Davisii* was the most predominating fossil; there were also some rare trilobites. In the upper Lingula beds were found two new shells, a spined *olenos* and other trilobites; and, in the upper beds of this division, many beautiful *agnostus* and trilobites, which have been recognised in some beds of shale at Great Malvern; these were very abundant. The entire thickness of the section was 10,000 ft., and the length on the surface about four miles.

Mr. READWIN, who was acquainted with the North Wales field, said that Mr. Williamson had corrected many of the errors of the gentlemen in Jermyn-street, and shown them that the geological puzzle which they seemed to consider Wales to be only needed careful examination to be made well known. The CHAIRMAN said the society ought to be very thankful to Mr. Williamson and Mr. PLANT, and he wished that some of the members of the society would make as close an examination of the Silurian beds in North Lancashire. Mr. Williamson was present at the meeting, on his way through Manchester to London, whence he is about to sail to undertake the superintendence of some gold mines in Pernambuco, in Brazil.

On the motion of Mr. KNOWLES, seconded by Mr. ATKEN, who paid a high compliment to the author of the paper, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Williamson, with which the proceeding terminated.

GEOLICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—Feb. 21: Mr. Warington W. SMYTH (President) in the chair. William Henry Corfield, B.A., Fellow of Pembroke College, Oxford; University College Hospital, Gower-street, W.C.; Henry Lee, The Waldons, Croydon; Henry Skiffington Poole, B.A., Cape Breton, Nova Scotia; Alexander Ramsay, Jan.; Norland-square, Notting-hill, W.; Charles Pearce Seracold, Taplow-hill and Oxford-square; George Sucha, Grosvenor-street, W.; and James Maurice Wilson, M.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, Rugby School, were elected Fellows. The following communications were read:

1. "On the Tertiary Mollusca of Jamaica," by R. J. Lechmere Guppy: communicated by Henry Woodward, F.G.S.

2. "On Tertiary Echinoderms from the West Indies," by R. J. Lechmere Guppy: communicated by H. M. Jenkins, F.G.S.

3. "On Tertiary Brachiopoda from Trinidad," by R. J. Lechmere Guppy: communicated by H. M. Jenkins, F.G.S.

4. "On the affinities of Platystomus, and allied genera," by John Young, M.D., F.G.S.

5. "Note on the Scales of Rhizodus, Owen," by John Young, M.D., F.G.S.

The following donations to the society's museum were exhibited:—Tertiary Echinoderms from Trinidad and Anguilla; presented by R. J. L. Guppy. Specimens of siliceous encrustations from the hot springs of New Zealand; presented by Miss Kinder. Photograph of the hot springs of New Zealand; presented by the Rev. T. Kinder.

On Wednesday next the following paper will be read:—"On the Carboniferous State of the North of Devon and South of Ireland," by J. Beete Jukes, M.A., F.R.S., F.G.S.

COMPOSITION DEEDS.—The Court of Exchequer has decided in the case of *Boulnois v. Mann*, that a provision in a deed under the 192d section of the Bankruptcy Act, 1861, that the debtor shall pay the composition provided for by the deed as soon as the trustee shall certify that the deed has been executed, or in writing assented to, by a majority in number representing three-fourths in value of the creditors, is unreasonable, and, therefore, bad, as introducing a period for the commencement of the operation of the deed different from that prescribed by the statute.

COMPOSITION DEEDS.—In the case of a trust deed for the benefit of creditors, *ex parte Roper*, it was held by the London Court of Bankruptcy that a covenant in a deed of composition entered into by a third party to pay to the creditors the composition mentioned in the deed is not within the spirit of the Bankruptcy Act, 1861, and is a manifest attempt of the debtor to obtain a release from his creditors. Such a covenant is, therefore, unreasonable, and not binding upon a dissenting creditor.

LIABILITY AS CONTRIBUTORY.—The Lord Chancellor has reversed the decision of the Master of the Rolls, in *re Agricultural Insurance Company* (Stanhope's case). It will be remembered that by an arrangement between certain of the shareholders and the directors of the company, the shares of those shareholders who wished to retire from the company were to be considered as forfeited on payment by them of certain sums of money. Subsequently to this arrangement, the Rev. F. Stanhope, one of the shareholders, who had not come into it, made another arrangement with the directors, by which his shares were transferred to the company on payment by him of a smaller sum than he would have had to pay under the first. The transfer of his shares was duly registered, but no other notice of it was given to the other shareholders. Eleven years afterwards the company was ordered to be wound-up. The Lord Chancellor now held that the transaction was irregular and collusive, and that, notwithstanding the lapse of time, the name of the executors (Mr. Stanhope being dead) ought to be placed upon the list of contributors. This decision is in accordance with the holding of Lord Westbury in a similar case, arising out of the same winding-up proceedings.

NEW INVENTIONS.

PROVISIONAL PROTECTION for six months has been granted for the following—W. HARRISON, of the firms of Harrison and Sons and T. Walker, all of Blackburn.—Improvements in machinery for boring, turning, and shaping articles of metal. Dec. 29. C. G. PENNY, Greenwich, Kent.—Improvements in the treatment and utilisation of certain waste products resulting from the combustion of boghead, Cannel, and other coals and minerals, and for the treatment of china-clay. Feb. 22.

S. DRAKE, Cockerham, Cumberland.—Improvements in the manufacture of coke and apparatus connected therewith. Jan. 27.

B. FARMER, Barrow-in-Furness.—Improvements in machinery or apparatus for washing, wringing, and mangle textile and folded fabrics of all descriptions, also applicable to the washing of ores, gold and silver dust, and other metals, hair, tow, and other similar materials. Jan. 29.

H. A. BONNEVILLE, Paris, and 38, Porchester-terrace, Bayswater.—Improvements in the manufacture of wrought-iron tubes, applicable to different purposes. Jan. 31.

C. D. ABEL, 20, Southampton-buildings.—Improvements in coke-ovens. Feb. 5.

R. GATLEY, Manchester.—Improvements in blowing and blasting engines. Feb. 6.

LETTERS' PATENT have been issued for the following:—

J. WHITWORTH, Manchester.—Improvements in casting iron and steel, and in apparatus employed for that purpose. Nov. 21.

SPECIFICATIONS published during the week:—

Blasting, heating-stoves for furnaces, &c.; drying and sorting coals, ores, &c., 4d.; rolling and shaping metals, 1s. 10d.; mining coal, 1d. L. DE FONTAINEMOREAU.

CUTTING COAL.—An invention has been patented by Messrs. Farrar and Booth, of Barnsley, which consists in the use of a slotting tool, or cutter, worked by steam, compressed air, or other elastic fluid. It is claimed that this to-and-fro motion of the reciprocating tool or cutter produces horizontal or longitudinal tubes or narrow cuttings to any desired extent, and at any desired level, in the face or end of the coal, and thus facilitates its detachment from the roof and floor of the mine.

In Chancery.

CAUTION.—WESTON'S PATENT PULLEY BLOCKS.—TANGYE v. STOTT.—Before His Honour Vice-Chancellor Sir W. P. Wood and a special jury, December 11th, 12th, 13th, 15th, and 16th, 1865, and before His Honour, on motion for a new trial and motion for decree, February 8th and 12th, 1866.

The special jury having found a verdict for the plaintiffs, and His Honour Vice-Chancellor Wood having made a decree for a perpetual injunction to restrain the defendant James Stott, of Rochdale, from infringing Weston's Patent, and ordering the defendant to deliver to the plaintiffs all articles made according to the invention, and to pay to the plaintiffs the cost of the suit.

All persons are hereby cautioned against manufacturing, purchasing, or selling any differential pulley-block similar to Weston's Patent not manufactured by the plaintiffs. Applications will forthwith be made to the Court of Chancery for INJUNCTIONS against all persons who may be found infringing Weston's Patent after this notice.

The blocks may be obtained from the plaintiffs' wholesale agents, S. and E. RANSOME AND CO., 31, Essex-street, Strand, London, W.C.

J. HENRY JOHNSON, 47, Lincoln's Inn-fields, London (Solicitor for the plaintiffs).

TO ENGINEERS, CONTRACTORS, AND OTHERS.—THE POWELL DUFFRYN STEAM COAL COMPANY (LIMITED) REQUIRE TENDERS for the following:

BARROW HEMATITE STEEL COMPANY (LIMITED).

HEAD OFFICE AND WORKS,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.
BRANCH OFFICES,
No. 2, GREAT GEORGE STREET, WESTMINSTER.
No. 73, ST. VINCENT STREET, GLASGOW.
No. 44, QUEEN STREET, WOLVERHAMPTON.
DIRECTORS.
His Grace the DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE.—Chairman.
LORD FREDERICK CHARLES CAVENDISH, M.P.
HENRY WILLIAM SCHNEIDER, Esq., M.P.
WILLIAM CURREY, Esq.
FREDERICK ILTID NICHOLL, Esq.
JAMES RAMSDEN, Esq.—MANAGING DIRECTOR.
SECRETARY—Francis T. Rolls, Esq.
MANAGER—J. T. Smith, Esq.

This company was originally formed for the manufacture of steel under the Bessemer process, from the furnaces of Messrs. Schneider, Hannay, and Co.
The company have since arranged for the transfer to them, on the 1st January, 1866, of the Hematite Iron Ore Mines and Furnaces belonging to that firm.
In addition to the supply of iron ore and hematite pig-iron, and the manufacture of steel rails, which was the primary object of the company, they manufacture tyres and axles.
Plates for shipbuilding, boilers, girders, bridges, and roofs.
Bars, angles, guns, and forgings of every description in steel.

NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND (Established in the year 1834)
OPENED for the TRANSACTION of BANKING BUSINESS in LONDON on the 10th January, 1866, at the head office, Bias:—opposite-street (corner of Threadneedle-street), and at the St. James's branch, 14, Waterloo-place, Pall-mall.
Subscribed capital £2,100,000 0 0
Paid-up capital 1,080,000 0 0
Reserve fund 225,452 6 2
Number of shareholders, 1704.

The NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND, having numerous branches in England and Wales, as well as agents and correspondents at home and abroad, affords great facilities to parties transacting banking business with it in London. Customers keeping accounts with the bank in town may have monies paid to their credit at its various branches, and remitted free of charge.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS are conducted at the head office and St. James's branch on the usual terms of London banks.

DEPOSITS AT INTEREST are received of sums of £10 and upwards, for which receipts are granted called deposit receipts, and interest is allowed according to the value of money from time to time, as advertised by the Bank in the newspapers.

The AGENCY of COUNTRY and FOREIGN BANKS, whether joint-stock or private, is undertaken.

PURCHASES and SALES are EFFECTED in all British and Foreign Stocks, and Dividends, Annuities, &c., received for customers.

CIRCULAR NOTE for the use of Travellers on the Continent will be issued as soon as arrangements can be made.

The OFFICERS of the BANK are bound to secrecy as regards the transactions of its customers.

COPIES of the THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT of the Bank, Lists of Shareholders, Branches, Agents, and Correspondents, may be had on application at the head office, and at St. James's branch.

By order of the Directors,
A. ROBERTSON } Joint General
E. ATKINSON } Managers.

DEPOSITS RECEIVED BY THE CREDIT FONCIER AND MOBILIER OF ENGLAND (LIMITED).—RATES FOR MONEY ON DEPOSIT.—This company RECEIVES MONEY on DEPOSIT, in sums of £10 and upwards, at the undermentioned rates, from this day until further notice, viz.:—

At fourteen days' notice 5/4 per cent. per annum.

At one month's notice 6 per cent. per annum.

For fixed periods of not less than three months and up to six months 5 1/2 per cent. per annum.

Beyond six months and up to nine months 6 per cent. per annum.

Beyond nine months and up to twelve months 6 1/4 per cent. per annum.

Beyond twelve months and up to twenty-four months 6 1/2 per cent. per annum.

Forms of application can be obtained of the Secretary, to whom all communications must be addressed.

By order of the Court, ALFRED LOWE, Sec.

Nos. 17 and 18, Cornhill, London, Feb. 22, 1866.

NICKEL AND COBALT REFINING, AND GERMAN SILVER WORKS, 16, OOZEL STREET NORTH, BIRMINGHAM.

STE. HEN BARKER begs to inform the Trade that he has the following articles of sale:—

REFINED METALLIC NICKEL. | OXIDE OF COBALT. [WIRE, &c.
REFINED METALLIC BISMUTH. | GERMAN SILVER—IN INGOTS, SHEET
NICKEL AND COBALT ORES PURCHASED.

GOLDENHILL, COBALT, NICKEL, COLOUR, BORAX, AND CHEMICAL WORKS,
NEAR STOKE-UPON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

JOHN HENSHALL WILLIAMSON, MANUFACTURER AND REFINER.

Purchaser of Borate of Lime and Tincal.

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Mines examined and reported on, at a scale of charges which obviously ensures a large saving upon the costs (in fees and travelling expenses) of special agents sent from England. Telegrams (arriving from London in 14 days) promptly attended to.

W. T. RICKARD, F.C.S., M.G.A., &c. (late Mitchell and Rickard, London).

CONRAD WIGAND (late Supervising Assayer of the United States Mint, San Francisco).

London Agent:—T. W. Barr, Esq., 12, Paternoster-row.

MINES IN NEVADA, U. S.—Mr. J. T. P. PECHÉY, o VIRGINIA CITY, NEVADA, will INSPECT and REPORT on MINES in that STATE, and in CALIFORNIA, and will NEGOTIATE SALES of MINING PROPERTIES. Refer by permission to C. O. EGERS, Esq., Secretary of the Marquette and New Granda Mining Company (from whom terms can be obtained), and also to the Editor of the MINING JOURNAL.

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By WILLIAM RICKARD.

Teacher of Practical Mining in the late Mining School of Cornwall, and Principal of the Engineering Academy, 36, Upper Parliament-street, Liverpool.

Truro: Head and Son.—London: Longman and Co., the office of the MINING JOURNAL 26, Fleet-street; of the author, and of all booksellers.

In the Court of the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries.
Stannaries of Cornwall.

IN the MATTER of the COMPANIES ACT, 1862, and of the EAST WHEAL ELLEN MINING COMPANY.—By an order made by his Honour the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries in the above matter, dated the 26th day of February inst., on the petition of Richard Michel, of the parish of Gwennap, within the said Stannaries, a creditor of the said company, it was ordered that the EAST WHEAL ELLEN MINING COMPANY should be WOUND-UP by this Court, under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1862.

HODGE, HOCKIN, AND MARRACK, Truro, Cornwall
Dated Truro, 27th February, 1866. (Solicitors for the Petitioner).

In the Court of the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries.
Stannaries of Cornwall.

IN the MATTER of the COMPANIES ACT, 1862, and of the NORTH FRANCES MINING COMPANY.—By an order made by his Honour the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries in the above matter, dated the 26th day of February inst., on the petition of Francis Pryor, of Redruth, within the said Stannaries, a shareholder of the said company, it was ordered that the NORTH FRANCES MINING COMPANY should be WOUND-UP by this Court, under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1862.

S. T. G. DOWNING, Redruth
(Solicitor for the Petitioner).

HODGE, HOCKIN, AND MARRACK, Truro, Cornwall
Dated Truro, February 27, 1866. (Agents of the said Solicitor).

In the Court of the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries.
Stannaries of Cornwall.

IN the MATTER of the COMPANIES ACT, 1862, and of the WEST HUEL GRYLLS MINING COMPANY.—By an order made by his Honour the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries in the above matter, dated the 28th day of February inst., on the petition of Samuel Higgs the younger, of Penzance, within the said Stannaries of Cornwall, a creditor of the said company, it was ordered that the WEST HUEL GRYLLS MINING COMPANY should be WOUND-UP by this Court, under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1862.

HODGE, HOCKIN, AND MARRACK, Truro, Cornwall
Dated Truro, 28th February, 1866. (Solicitors for the Petitioner).

In Chancery.

RE CLEVELAND IRON COMPANY (LIMITED), WHITBY, YORKSHIRE.
THE NEW IRON FIELDS OF ENGLAND.

MESSRS. FURBER AND PRICE are instructed by Frederick Whinney, Esq., the Official Liquidator, with the approbation of his Lordship the Master of the Rolls, to SELL, BY AUCTION, at the Angel Inn, Whitby, Yorkshire, on Wednesday, March 14, 1866, at Two for Three o'clock, precise time, the VALUABLE LEASE of the IMPORTANT IRON-MINE, comprising an area of 218 acres, lying in and under certain Farms, called Skeldergaugh and Fowle Green, in the township of Commandon, in the Cleveland district, lying between the Castleton and Kildale Stations of the North Yorkshire and Cleveland Railway, to which it adjoins, and is connected by a siding. A well-executed shaft, of 4 yds. diameter, has been sunk to the depth of 121 yds., and the vein is found of very superior quality, and of the usual thickness of 12 ft. The works are ready for immediate profitable working. The lease is for 99 years, the royalty only 4 1/2d. per ton, and the purchasers will be entitled to raise 48,000 tons of ironstone free of royalty.

The mine and works may be viewed on application to Mr. Watson, the resident manager, of whom particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained; as also of F. Whinney, Esq., official Liquidator, 5, Series-street, Lincoln's-inn; Messrs. Deane, Chubb, and Saunders, solicitors, 14, South-square, Gray's-inn; and at the auction and estate offices, Warwick-court, Gray's-inn.

IRONWORKS FOR SALE, AT WORKINGTON.

M. J. R. WALLACE WILL SELL, BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY, the 7th of March, 1866, at Mr. Bennett's, Green Dragon Hotel, Workington, at Six o'clock in the evening, all those compact, complete, and well-built IRONWORKS, on the Quay, Workington, together with the whole of the MACHINERY, FIXTURES, TOOLS, and APPARATUS as they now stand, ready to be put into one into operation.

The tenure of the property is practically equivalent to freehold, being only subject to a small annual ground rent.

The MACHINERY comprises a powerful BEAM ENGINE, STEAM HAMMER (Condie's patent), shingling hove, trams of rails for puddled bar and merchant iron, with the necessary furnaces for producing from 120 to 150 tons of iron per week.

So far as locality is concerned, the works could not possess greater facilities, being in the immediate vicinity of the works of four hematite iron ore smelting companies; while coal, rail, and water transit are on the spot.

The premises may be readily adapted to other purposes in which space and steam power are required.

For particulars and orders to inspect, apply to Messrs. Armstrong and Milburn, solicitors, Workington; to Messrs. Dodd and Son, Ironfounders, also of Workington; or to J. R. Wallace, Auctioneer.—Museum, Feb. 6, 1866.

BANGOR—THE TANYBWICH SLATE QUARRY, in close proximity to the celebrated Penrhyn Quarries, and forming one of the four Bangor Slates Quarries.

MESSRS. FULLER AND HORSEY are instructed by the directors to SELL, BY AUCTION, on Tuesday, March 13, at One o'clock precisely, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, London, THE TANYBWICH (BANGOR) SLATE QUARRY, situate about five miles from Bangor, in the parish of Llanllechid, in the county of Carnarvon, in close proximity to the celebrated Penrhyn Quarries, and yielding slate fully equal in quality, and commanding the same price in the market.

The quarry may be almost termed a maiden quarry, the workings having been only opened sufficient to prove the quality of slate and the quantity inexhaustible. Most satisfactory reports have been obtained from the engineers of the Penrhyn and of the Llanllechid Quarries, both agreeing that the quarry is a valuable property, and when more fully opened will yield a large revenue.

There are three distinct veins of slate, viz.—red, blue, and green. The blue has been thoroughly proved, and the whole that has been raised has been sold at the same price as the Penrhyn slates. There is a good road from the quarry to the quay or to the railway, and slates are delivered to either place, at a charge of 3s. 6d. per ton. Coals are delivered to the quarry at 17s. per ton. The workings have been sunk to a depth of upwards of 60 ft., and the slate from the deep is raised by a HORIZONTAL HIGH-PRESSURE STEAM-ENGINE, of 30-horse power, with BOILER, and winding gear; the engine also works the pumps for draining the quarry. The extent of the holding is about 80 acres, and is held on lease at a fixed rent of £30 per annum, and 1 1/4d. royalty. There is a farm-house and outbuildings, grazing land, and some cottages. The openings have been judiciously made and well placed for economical working, and there is plenty of room for the debris. Labour is abundant.

To be viewed by application to Mr. Williams, Upper Bangor, the resident manager. Particulars may be obtained of G. A. Cape, Esq., 3, Adelaide-place, London-bridge; of Messrs. Vizard and Anstie, solicitors, 55, Lincoln's Inn-fields; the Penrhyn Arms, Bangor; the London Tavern; and of Messrs. Fuller and Horsey, 13, Billiter-street, London, E.C.

STOCKS MARSH COLLIERY.

MESSRS. ALEXANDER AND DANIEL WILL SELL, BY AUCTION, at the George Hotel, Shepton Mallet, in the County of Somerset, on Tuesday, the 21st of March, 1866, at Three o'clock in the afternoon, subject to the conditions of sale to be there and there produced, unless an acceptable offer shall be made for the same in the meantime by private contract of which due notice will be given; at that VERY VALUABLE and PROMISING COLLIERY and WORKS, called the STOCKS MARSH COLLIERY, situate at Stocks Marsh, in the parish of Ashwick, in the County of Somerset, with the STEAM ENGINE and other MACHINERY, FIXTURES, and PLANT belonging thereto.

The above valuable colliery is held for the residue of a term of forty-one years, commencing from the 19th of August, 1862, subject to the royalty of one-tenth on the amount of sales. The shaft is sunk to the depth of about 100 yards, and branches have been driven, in which five veins of coal have been cut, and it is believed that about ten more seams of coal are above and underneath, with large deposits of excellent ironstone and fire-clay and surface-clay, suitable for the manufacture both of fire and building bricks of first-rate quality. The extent of the mineral lands comprised in the lease is between 16 and 17 acres, and it is believed that further extensive mineral lands can without difficulty be procured and added thereto, the Stocks Marsh Colliery forming the key to a large mineral district, which is second to none in the South of England.

fuel, and the necessity of an abundant supply being produced; and this supply can readily be got from the coke ovens of the country. There are many other advantages besides the one alluded to. Instance 1. No necessity for a vessel being so deeply laden as heretofore; this is especially valuable to iron-clad war ships.—2. The fact that no such smoke stack as the one in use being required, the smoke issuing from which betrays the position of a steamer long before she is seen.—3. A vessel able to keep the sea for a considerably longer period.—4. Furnaces more under control, &c.

The plan I adopt to burn this oil is very efficient. A small pump attached to the engine raises the oil from the chamber at the bottom of the vessel to a small cistern above the level of the boilers; a pipe communicates with a retort placed near the boilers, and this retort is heated to a full red heat; the oil passes down the pipe into this retort, and in its passage to the other end of the retort gets decomposed into permanent gas. This gas is then conducted by pipes into the furnaces of the boilers, and burned on burners so constructed as to admit of a quantity of atmospheric air being consumed with it; in fact, an application, on a large scale, of Bunsen's burner. A similar apparatus is all that is required to convert this crude coal oil into illuminating gas. The quantity of oil that can be decomposed by one retort is amazing when compared with the present mode of obtaining gas by decomposing coal, and the gas produced by oil is comparatively free from the impurities in ordinary illuminating gas, as the heat used to obtain the oil from the coal is not sufficient to volatilise the impurities in the coal to the extent they are when coal is treated to obtain gas. Gas companies could thus save largely in their expenditure for plant for both decomposing and purifying were they to use coal oil in lieu of coal, and be able to supply a better and a cheaper gas.

I will no longer trespass on you after I have observed that the great number of uses coal oil can be applied to is a guarantee that it is destined to become of the very greatest importance and necessity, which is a full assurance of the ready sale it will always command. J. NICHOLAS.

Mineral Oil and Chemical Works, Aspyle, near Wigan, Feb. 22.

THE EBBW VALE COMPANY (LIMITED).

SIR.—You have recently inserted a paragraph in your valuable Journal, which has been copied by several local papers, to the effect "that changes are about to take place in the management of some of the works belonging to the Ebbw Vale Company (Limited)." I am instructed by the board of directors to state that there is no foundation whatever for this report.

7, Laurence Pountney-hill, March 1.

EDWIN GROVE, Sec.

RETURNS OF IRISH MINES.

SIR.—As there appears to be a general feeling of distrust—nay, almost disdain—thrown upon Irish mining, not only by sharebrokers but by English capitalists generally, I subjoin, for their consideration, an abstract from the Ticketings as published each quarter in the *Mining Journal*, showing the amount realised by the two Cornish mines which made the greatest sale in a quarter in comparison with the returns of two Irish mines in the same period:—

Clifford	South	West	Knock-	Bore-
Amal.	Caradon.	Seton.	man.	Average.
June, 1859	12,915	..	13,591	.. 18,429 .. 10,839 .. 14,654
Sept, 1859	12,608	12,042	..	12,376 .. 12,283 .. 18,924 .. 15,603
Dec, 1859	15,480	..	13,942	.. 14,711 .. 13,938 .. 9,749 .. 11,843
March, 1860	15,586	13,946	..	14,765 .. 25,403 .. 9,214 .. 17,300
June, 1860	11,748	..	12,379	.. 12,063 .. 14,576 .. 18,865 .. 16,720
Sept, 1860	11,498	12,403	..	11,960 .. 14,085 .. 19,959 .. 17,020
Dec, 1860	..	12,558	11,968	.. 17,242 .. 10,470 .. 13,886
March, 1861	12,562	12,104	..	12,303 .. 7,721 .. 9,402 .. 8,661
June, 1861	12,848	12,198	..	12,523 .. 22,760 .. 21,752 .. 22,256
Sept, 1861	13,877	..	12,267	.. 10,071 .. 8,848 .. 14,455 .. 11,652
Dec, 1861	18,931	13,163	..	16,017 .. 20,479 .. 22,065 .. 21,272
March, 1862	17,955	12,601	..	15,282 .. 10,795 .. 12,122 .. 11,958
June, 1862	16,849	11,788	..	14,068 .. 16,836 .. 17,763 .. 20,790
Sept, 1862	17,214	13,027	..	15,120 .. 8,240 .. 22,341 .. 15,290
Dec, 1862	15,958	12,607	..	14,382 .. 10,708 .. 12,185 .. 11,446
March, 1863	16,203	12,105	..	14,153 .. 9,677 .. 4,479 .. 7,078
June, 1863	17,631	12,391	..	15,011 .. 15,891 .. 27,658 .. 21,774
Sept, 1863	14,877	..	12,267	.. 10,071 .. 8,848 .. 14,455 .. 11,652
Dec, 1863	20,033	14,230	..	17,181 .. 10,524 .. 11,192 .. 10,858
March, 1864	21,265	13,682	..	17,473 .. 12,483 .. 6,040 .. 9,281
June, 1864	14,274	14,140	..	14,182 .. 26,464 .. 22,266 .. 27,865
Sept, 1864	18,650	14,451	..	16,550 .. 8,466 .. 14,546 .. 11,600
Dec, 1864	20,964	14,799	..	17,881 .. 15,994 .. 15,423 .. 8,500
March, 1865	19,986	18,735	..	16,860 .. 2,788 .. 2,833 .. 2,830
June, 1865	19,503	12,743	..	16,123 .. 15,571 .. 14,277 .. 14,899
Sept, 1865	18,419	13,924	..	15,686 .. 2,711 .. 20,356 .. 11,623
Dec, 1865	14,062	13,631	..	13,846 .. 6,502 .. 3,251
Total	420,847	301,556	51,280	391,468 341,806 414,596 378,708

* This ore was produced from the Phoenix Mines.

It will be seen that whilst the average of the most productive Cornish mines in the seven years was 391,468 worth of ore each, the average of the two most productive Irish mines was 378,708, the difference being only 12,760, in favour of the Cornish in the seven years—which, considering the lengthened period during which the Cornish mines have been in course of development, compared with the time the Irish mines have been at work, and considering the fact that recently some of the Irish ore has been sold elsewhere than at Swansea (and does not, therefore, come into the calculation), I consider the results highly favourable to Ireland.

As a mine agent, and having resided in Ireland several years, I would advise and recommend English capitalists to send reliable agents to survey the south-west part of the county of Cork; and it will be found that, although many mines have been partially opened, with the single exception of Berehaven, not one of them has had a fair and proper development. Unfortunately for Ireland, the mines have been taken up by persons of little or no capital, and chiefly, it is too much to be feared, for the purpose of jobbing upon the free shares, instead of working the mines in a legitimate manner.—London, Feb. 26.

N.

PROSPECTS IN THE CHIVERTON DISTRICT.

SIR.—My last visit to the mines of this district fully confirms the opinion which I have long since entertained, the improved prospects fully warranting me in stating that it will ultimately become the most extensive lead district of the county. Chiverton Moor, I am pleased to see, is turning out what I have from the first anticipated, the lode in the 40 being worth about 20*£* per fathom, and gradually improving as the end advances; this level has now gone over a nice bunch of lead, the shaft is in course of sinking for another level, and, as soon as it is reached, I believe a much richer one will be opened up. The lead in this district becomes more silvery in depth; consequently, more valuable. The improvement here has been followed by a good rise of the price of shares.

North Chiverton, to which my friends have often had reference, is considerably improved, the best proof of which is the gradual increased returns of mineral. Having long since written and spoken of this mine to my clients as a really legitimate undertaking, I am pleased, for their information, to give a few of the leading features of the concern; and having on several occasions given a description of the geological formation of all lead-bearing strata, to which this contrasts very favourably, it will suffice now to say that I see no difference between the composition of the ground about the lodes of this mine and the strata embedding the rich boulders of West Chiverton. My expectations relative to the new lode, to which I have frequently referred before, are fast realising; it proves on being cut through to be 3 ft. wide, producing at present 5 cwt. of lead and 1 ton of blende per fathom. Levels are now being extended east and west on its good, and valuable ground is being laid open, which will be shortly returned at a good profit. The cross-cut is still extending towards other lodes, which are within a very short distance of this, and I should not be surprised at any day to hear of a further valuable discovery; indeed, there are more than ordinary chances of it. An important feature, and probably not generally known, is that a junction of this lode with one seen near the shaft will be met with in the next level, such intersections throughout the mines of the county proving of the greatest possible importance, and from which I anticipate great results. This will, however, be proved in the course of a few months. At the eastern sump-shaft, on examining the 50, the lode presents the usual indications of a rich deposit in depth, being composed of splendid galena and a strong capel, with small bunches of lead and blende intermixed, such as I have never known to fail, as a proof of which the 60 is being driven on the course of the lode east and west under this galena, turning out 3 tons of blende and lead per fathom, and showing, in the bottom of the level, unmistakable evidences of its leading to a larger and richer deposit of mineral at no very increased depth. Here again is another proof of the superficial bunches accompanied with galena of the right description, proving it to be the top of a vast amount of mineral wealth, which only requires time to thoroughly develop its resources; and I again assure that experience embodies me to assert that there is not one-half the mystery connected with mining as would appear to deter private capitalists from its study. It can, therefore, be easily understood that there are several points of the greatest importance to come off in this mine within a comparatively short time; and, although yet in its infancy, it has been returning about 600*£* worth of mineral quarterly, but must considerably increase in the ensuing few months, irrespective of the discoveries likely to be made. This is another mining anomaly to which I have often referred, the shares of which are to be purchased for about one-half of some mines which have never sold an ounce of ore, nor yet appear likely to; and I cannot help saying that the public lose their money in many instances with their eyes open to the fact, the fault of which is, unfortunately, too often undeservedly laid on Mining, and has, indeed, proved a great drawback to the welfare of real and legitimate enterprises, which I contend, if carried out in its integrity, is a profitable and safe an investment as any to be found.

CHARLES BADEN.

SOUTH FRANCES, AND WEST BASSET.

SIR.—I much regret that your columns should have been made the medium for circulating such erroneous statements as those contained in the letter of "A South Frances Adventurer," which appeared in last week's Journal. I have only to refer you to Mr.

Bashell's letter in the Journal of March 26, 1859, and the report of the West Bassett meeting in that of May 28, 1864, for a complete refutation of the reckless assertion of your correspondent.—Feb. 28.

A WEST BASSET ADVENTURER.

STRIKE AMONG THE METALLIFEROUS MINERS.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

A "STRIKE" amongst the metalliferous miners of Cornwall and Devon is an occurrence to which we are so entirely unaccustomed, that it is alike difficult to trace its origin or to devise an effectual remedy. That the men are altogether unjustified in striking is obvious, because the very system of payment adopted in mines places it as much in the hands of the miner as of the mine agents to determine the wages to be paid. To render the method of "setting a bargain" in a mine, which, in other words, is engaging a working miner, generally understood, it may be compared to an auction, at which the auctioneer (the mine agent) is the bidder; the object being to sell at the lowest instead of the highest price. A certain piece of work is to be done, and the mine agent having examined the place, forms an opinion as to the amount which should be paid for doing it. Upon the "setting-day" it is offered to the assembled miners, for (say) 3*£* per fathom, which being lower than the miners consider should be paid, it is not taken, and the agent has, consequently, to advance to, perhaps, 3*£*, 5*£*, or 5*£*, per fathom to get the work done, and as these bargains or contracts are for one month only, it must be apparent that the rate can be varied each month, according to the supply of, and demand for, labour. Now, at present the labour market is by no means overstocked, and the miners are really in a better position for dictating terms than the mine agents, so that we must look further than this to understand the question.

In the whole of the trades which have heretofore been disturbed by strikes the workmen have had at least one fair cause of complaint—that the incompetent workmen was paid as much per day, or per ton, as the most competent, so that a man turning out a ton of iron, for example, from 5*£* worth of raw material received no more than he was used to, worth to produce the same result. With the working miners the case has been entirely different; he has always entered upon his monthly contract with the same amount of freedom and independence (though, of course, on a much smaller scale) as the contractor for a large railway or public works entered upon his. What necessity, then, there can be for "strikes" under such a system it is difficult to conceive. If we were to ask fifty railway contractors to submit to a committee of nine of their number deciding whether they had undertaken to construct a railway for a lower sum than would prove profitable, we should be regarded as little better than insane, because, as educated men of business, the contractors would know full well that the sole object of the committee would be to benefit its own members; but the promoters of the Miners' Strike Association, knowing that they will find amongst the miners a sufficient number of ignorant men to believe in their promises, although those promises are not likely to be fulfilled, grow fat by the carrying out of their imposture. The delegates' wages, however, are made up solely from the contributions of the working miners, and if these working miners would but observe the class of men who volunteer to improve their position, and ascertain their probable income as delegates, compared with their average wages as miners, it will at once become apparent that their sole object is to delude the working miner, to secure themselves an ample amount each month without working for it.

But if the working miners have no reason to strike, it by no means follows that they have no grounds for complaint, nor can it be doubted that a "Miners' Mutual Benefit Association" properly constituted, and under the supervision of gentlemen connected with Cornwall and Devon, and in whom the miners have confidence, would be of the greatest benefit which the miners could be offered. The "Doctor and Club" system requires a thorough revision, and until this is effected the working miners have good reason to complain: if the "adventurers in mines" will not do their part to remedy the crying evil they must not be surprised if such objectionable associations as that now causing such excitement are permanently established. The contributions to the "Doctor and Club" would, if properly applied, be ample to provide for all the medical and mutual benefit wants of the miner, but whilst it is dealt with as it now is, and regarded by the adventurers as their property, though a deduction from the hard-earned wages of the miner, it is practically wasted. It cannot be questioned that, unless the allowance and subsequent deduction of the "Doctor and Club" money is a mere mockery, the men should have greater advantage from their contribution than they do at present. If the amount paid to the miners monthly be sufficient without the "Doctor and Club" money, let them be paid that amount only; but if it is a fair and real contribution, it should be made more apparent that the miners alone are benefited by it.

EXEMPTION OF COAL MINES AND QUARRIES FROM TAXATION.—An argument has been put forward on behalf of certain mineral lessees in the Glasgow district, which applies equally to all parts of the kingdom. It is remarked that the principle upon which the compilation of the valuation roll has for centuries proceeded is that the assessable rent or yearly value which lands or hereditaries yield from year to year is what remains after deducting the probable annual average cost of repairs, insurance, and other expenses, if any, necessary to maintain such lands and hereditaries in their actual state, and all public charges payable in respect of the same. It is urged that while the interests severally of the landlord and tenant were made the subjects of careful enquiry by the Select Committee, the lessee of a mine, quarry, or clay field is neither a tenant nor occupant so as to bring him under the same category with either of the latter, but through the lordship paid to the proprietor or superior, the costs he may raise, or the stones he may quarry, or the clay he may transform into bricks, is the stock in trade of the purchaser that his capital and his enterprise have rendered saleable commodities. The coal miner, quarryman, and brickmaker doubtless group with the manufacturing class, and the superior of a quarry, of a mine, or a clay field is a seller of the raw material as certainly and in the same essential sense as the seller of timber, wool, or cotton. For this reason it seems just and reasonable to assess a manufacturer of cotton or woollen goods upon the cash he may pay to the cotton or wool broker or importer in Liverpool or Glasgow for the raw material he needs, as the lessee of minerals for the substances he buys of the superior. It is very justly observed that if the lessees of whinstone, who pay a lordship of 16*£* per annum, for the quarries they work, were annually commencing a cordon to an equal amount for raw material of that kind, the cases would be parallel; and to assess them on the latter assumption to the extent of 14*£*, 1*£*, 1*£*, annually on that account would be ludicrously absurd, as everyone would admit, but not one particle more so than to make the same claim upon the whinstone quarry. What, let us ask, is the present commercial value of unexcavated coal, unquarried whinstone, or unworked clay? Just the same value as of timber in the log, cotton in the bale, or wool in the sack—that is, it is worth nothing. The whole value of each is prospective, and depends upon the capital that is employed and the skill that is expended in converting them into utilities. We are surprised that the remonstrating lessees of quarries, coal pits, and clay fields have not seen their case in this light with sufficient vividness, so as to give that unanswerable force to their arguments which their case so plainly admits of. The lessees should hold by this strict analogy of their case here insisted on, and which they themselves indistinctly point out. They should not haggle for mitigated assessments, but, upon a principle otherwise and elsewhere acted upon, seek their total extinction as applied to the important industries they prosecute. They rightly state that "the proprietor of a house possesses lands and hereditaries, and the tenant pays him a rent which is the interest on the proprietor's outlay; the amount which the tenant pays represents his ability to pay. But with mineral subjects it is different. The proprietor owns the whinstone, but the lessee creates the value by working it, and pays for the purchase of raw marketable stock. Yet he is assessed on the value he has given for his stock in trade, while all who pursue other trades are assessed on the value of premises they occupy."

THE WORKS OF JOHN ABBOT AND CO. (LIMITED)—OPENING OF NEW ROLLING-MILLS AND PUDDLING-FURNACES.—The leading characteristic of trade on Tyneside for some time past has been expansion. New undertakings are springing up on every side, and old concerns are daily augmenting the productive capabilities of their existing works. The cheering signs of commercial prosperity are apparent on all sides; but the most striking exemplification, perhaps, of the unity of pursuits for the realisation of a grand whole that we possess on the Tyne is to be found in the immense works of Palmer's Iron and Shipbuilding Company (Limited) at Jarrow. The operations of this company embrace the working of ironstone in the Cleveland mines, its manufacture into iron, and the final application of it to shipbuilding, and the construction of machinery and the various fittings required in maritime architecture. Other firms, however, can boast of this concentration of productive effort, though, perhaps, on a more limited scale than that of the undertaking just noticed. One of these firms is that of J. Abbot and Co. (Limited); with a view of producing chain of the highest possible quality, they have erected puddling-furnaces and rolling-mills on an extensive scale, in order to ensure a uniform quality in the iron used. This is the primary object of the new plant, although other descriptions of iron will be manufactured. The new puddling-furnaces and rolling

amounts to 20,532 cubic yards, including the surface peat and the cutting of the "bones." Buildings: Since the last report the barracks have been completed, and are occupied by the workmen, and found both commodious and comfortable. A small library is provided, also two newspapers and some periodicals, which are duly appreciated by the men. The smithy and a second weighing machine-house are also completed for level No. 2, and have 1466 yards of tramroads in use at present. Plans for building a machine-house are in progress, and it is intended soon to put up a steam-engine and sawing and planing-tables, of sufficient power to get the slates and slabs into the market; and it is expected that these will be kept at work as soon as they can be erected.

EAST ST. JUST UNITED MINING COMPANY.

The first annual general meeting of shareholders was held at the offices, on Wednesday, —Mr. HENRY L. PHILLIPS, managing director, in the chair.

The notice convening the meeting having been read, the report of the directors was submitted, which stated that they have pleasure in informing the shareholders that operations had been commenced on the mines without loss of time, and that the steady development of the property possessed by the company is progressing to their satisfaction. The necessity for prosecuting operations on an extensive scale being evident, having regard to the extent of the mines and the number of lodes comprised within the property, the directors determined upon at once erecting an engine of sufficient power to meet all requirements. This has accordingly been done, and flat-rods are attached thereto, which connect the pumps at Wheal Wilden, North Bosorne, and Ageworth shafts. The underground workings, which are extensive, have been pushed on vigorously, and three horse-whims have been erected for drawing purposes. The shafts, adit, and levels have been cleared and made good, and the buildings and works at surface have been carried out with every regard for durability and economy. The reports from the agents at the mine would explain in detail the extent of the work performed, and reference thereto was requested. The very excellent geological position of the property, and the number of metalliferous lodes which will be brought into development as the workings progress, induce the conviction that a very excellent mine will be the result of economical and vigorous operations. The accounts have been made up to Jan. 18, in order to include every expenditure within the twelve months from the registration of the company.

The CHAIRMAN said he had much pleasure in proposing that the report and accounts be received and adopted, as thereby he was afforded an opportunity of informing his fellow-proprietors that since he last had the pleasure of addressing them the whole of the operations at the mine had progressed most satisfactorily, and that the general indications of the lodes, so far as opened out, were at least fully equal to their most sanguine expectations; and, looking at the unusual promises of success, the geological position, and at the several productive mines surrounding their property, he thought the shareholders would fully agree with him that they had more than ordinary reason to believe that the East St. Just would, when further developed, prove to be a very excellent mine, and one that would yield to its proprietors satisfactory dividends for many years to come. As to the extent of the set, a reference to the plan would show that there was ground enough for three or four large mines. That was a feature of importance, if they determined to develop the several lodes to any considerable extent; and when he mentioned that there were no less than 13 lodes, which were intersected by a caunter, composed of much easier ground than "the country," and that the whole of them could be commanded by the present engine-shaft, the merest tyro in mining would at once see that the resources of this property could be expeditiously, and at the same time economically wrought. Another favourable feature was that, as compared with almost every other district, their working expenses were the minimum, the water being very easy; and, furthermore, they were working a shallow mine, that had produced many thousand pounds worth of tin from the very lodes now in course of development. Those returns were made from about the adit, and one of the objects of the present company was to intersect all the lodes by means of that adit. As an evidence of the opinion entertained of the mine in the locality, he might state that a great number of the shares were taken by parties residing in the district, many of whom were shareholders in the old company. The directors' stake in the company was the best guarantee they could offer to their opinion, and he could say that he hoped and believed their endeavours to bring about a permanent success would prove successful. (Hear, hear.) He concluded by moving that the report be received and adopted.

The proposition having been duly seconded, and the auditors re-appointed.

Upon the proposition of Mr. BURS, seconded by Mr. WILKIN, the retiring directors were re-elected.

Mr. WARD, in acknowledging the vote, stated that he hoped before the next meeting some substantial evidence would be produced of the prosperity of their undertaking.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman and directors terminated the proceedings.

NEW MANSFIELD COPPER AND SILVER MINING CO.

The third general meeting of shareholders was held at the offices of the company, Winchester-street, on Wednesday.

Sir CHARLES BRIGHT, M.P., in the chair.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The report of the directors stated that during the year the works had been actively prosecuted, and two furnaces are now in blast, and shipments of copper ore are being made. A reverberatory furnace has been erected, in order to concentrate the results of the first fusion of the blast-furnaces, which reduces the cost of carriage of the regulus by one-half. Additional barrack accommodation has also been provided, and a store-house for coke and fluxing materials has been erected. A laboratory has been fitted up at one end of the smelting-house for assaying the mineral, the extraction of which is now paid for according to the percentage of metallic copper contained in it. The prospects of large and regular returns from the mine are fully confirmed as the works increase in extent, and although the delay is a source of present disappointment, it nevertheless insures large supplies for the future, as the time occupied in erecting the works and machinery has been utilized in opening additional ground for the extraction of ore. The ore is found, as was anticipated, to increase in richness as the works are carried deeper, and there is no question as to the great extent and value of the company's property. The mineral exists in abundance, and can be easily extracted, and smelted with large profit. All that is necessary is to open out sufficient ground to afford space for miners to extract the ore in such quantities as will supply the furnaces, and to provide additional furnaces as the underground workings are gradually developed. The brown coal concession (which has been referred to in various reports) will also prove a source of large revenue. A quantity of the coal has been extracted and used for the company's engines, and the extent of the coal field has been fully proved. The directors have, however, had full occupation for the funds at their command in carrying out the copper mining and smelting operations; and being advised by competent persons, experienced in working brown coal mines, that a sum of about £3000, would be required to do justice to this part of the property, they have, for the present, abstained from using so large a portion of the capital for the purpose; but they are confident that large returns will be derived from the development of this concession when they are in a position to undertake it.

The report of the manager (Mr. D. T. Macdonald) was also submitted, which, after referring to the character and extent of the different works at the mines, stated that during the year a considerable addition has been made to the buildings and machinery —a new smelting-house, concentration-house, and a large coke and flour-spar magazine having been built. The smelting-house is capable of containing three Mansfield furnaces; one is already built, and in blast, and found to answer very well. The concentration-house contains the reverberatory-furnace lately built. A new steam-engine and a couple of additional blowing cylinders have been erected; also, an apparatus for heating the air previous to entering the furnaces. With these appliances a sufficiency of hot air can be supplied to four furnaces. To accommodate more men an additional storey has also been erected on the barrack. It is satisfactory for him to be able to express his decided opinion, confirmed by all that has been done during the past year, that the New Mansfield Mines contain all the elements of great success, and that a safer mining undertaking does not exist in this country. In ordinary mining, depending upon the discovery of lodes, the risk is always great; but in their case the risk is reduced to a minimum—the ore lying in a regular deposit, seldom varying except near the outcrop. He estimates that there is enough discovered to last them for 20 years, even if they built several additional furnaces. This calculation was irrespective of the greatest part of the concessions, where the outcrop had been proved for several miles. He has visited and carefully examined the workings of the Old Mansfield, and found them the same as at New Mansfield, the geological formation being precisely the same—in fact, continuous throughout. Both furnaces are in blast, and all that is required is to increase the extent of the underground workings, so as to provide room for a greater number of miners, and thus augment the quantity of ore extracted, which was being done with all possible speed.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the reception and adoption of the report, said that the operations during the past year had not progressed so rapidly as he had anticipated. It was stated at the last meeting that certain alterations were necessary in their then single furnace, which would involve a considerable change in the smelting-house; and it was thought better at the same time to make an addition to the original plan of hot-air apparatus, by rendering it available to supply four furnaces. To those shareholders who had considered the ultimate prospects of this company it would be clear that the smelting power must go on continually increasing in advance of, or at any rate equal with, the means of raising "schifer" from the underground workings, and for that reason the directors thought it better to provide the buildings necessary for a second furnace. Contracts were entered into with the best engineers and builders, and with the usual penalties if the work was not completed at the time agreed upon; but carrying out such works in Germany was a very difficult thing to carry them out in this country. Since November last the furnace had, with the exception of a slight interruption, been in blast, and he was glad to be able to state that the smelting operations had progressed most satisfactorily, and that there had been made two shipments of ore to Swansea. The supplies would be continued as far as the "schifer" could be supplied to the furnaces, and there could be no doubt whatever as to the profitable result of their smelting operations, when carried on upon a large scale. At the present time the power was equal to 240 tons per week, although as yet the means of raising "schifer" was not equal to the production of that quantity. Upon that point, however, he might mention that the quantity of "schifer" produced entirely depended upon the number of men employed. There were now 106 hands employed underground, and two shafts, called A and B shafts, which would strike the "schifer" in a short time, would lay open ground for 120 more. Langenbach's shaft would open up further ground, and when the engine-shaft reached the "schifer" which it was expected would be done in about three months hence, there would be room for about 100 more, from which time, according to calculation, the means of producing ore would be considerably in advance of the present smelting-power, to an extent sufficient, probably, to induce them to erect another furnace. A kindred question to this was the means of accommodating the miners as the works were extended; that question was under the serious consideration of the board. As regards the brown coal, that would, no doubt, presently prove a source of considerable profit, although it would occasion a somewhat greater outlay than the directors considered it wise at present to expend; therefore, it was now only being used for their own operations. Referring to the balance-sheet, he stated that the item of £12,742, for sundry creditors, consisted of bills payable for contracts for plant, &c., and of which amount the directors had borrowed £6000, for carrying out the works. The borrowing power vested in the directors was limited to £5000, and it was for that reason that an extraordinary general meeting had been convened, in order to extend that power. Upon the other side of the account there was an item of £6964, for sundry debtors and for calls in arrear. To explain that account it was necessary for him

to state that the directors had made arrangements for placing a large number of the shares which were held in reserve. Since, however, the books were made up £5000, had been paid, and the remainder would be paid in a few days. Having stated that he saw no reason whatever to alter his opinion with regard to the success of the undertaking, but that when the mines were sufficiently developed he had no doubt the New Mansfield would be one of the greatest successes in the mining world, he concluded by moving that the report be received and adopted.

Mr. STOCK, M.P. (one of the directors), seconded the proposition.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply to questions, stated that two shipments of regulus had been made, of 10 tons each, and there were at the mines probably about 45 tons more, but increasing quantities were now being regularly produced. The percentage of that already sent to Swansea was not so high as the future shipments would be, which arose from the fact that the reverberatory furnace was not then finished. The percentage of the shipments already made was from 30 to 40 per cent. of copper, but in future it would be 60 to 65 per cent. As regards the silver, it was always thought that the percentage would be about equal with that yielded by the Old Mansfield ores, which was about 1 lb. of silver per 200 lbs. of copper, and in their own ore which had been smelted and sent to market the proportion was almost precisely the same; that could not but be regarded as a most important and satisfactory feature. As to the quantity of "schifer," he believed it would be necessary before long to have four furnaces at work, but the erection of the remaining two would incur a comparatively small cost, on account of all the necessary buildings being erected. When that was done there would be produced a very large profit.

A SHAREHOLDER enquired what profit it was estimated would be realized by the next meeting? —The CHAIRMAN said that entirely depended upon the carrying out of their calculations with reference to the time it would occupy in extending the different works. If these calculations were carried out he should expect by the time of the next annual general meeting they would have commenced earning dividends. While he would not pledge himself to any opinion, he might state that, according to his own estimate, based upon the calculations of the manager, he should expect that in something like six months the two furnaces would be regularly supplied with "schifer," and that by the end of the year their ore-producing means ought to be in advance. The ore smelted by two furnaces would yield a good profit upon the capital. The directors' opinion upon this point might be known from the fact that, although very large holders at the commencement of the company, they had since considerably increased their interest.

A SHAREHOLDER said he had twice visited the mines since the last general meeting, and he was more satisfied as to their great value. Although there might be some vexatious delays, yet he felt assured that when the property was fully developed the profits would be very large; and, what was of more importance, that the dividends would be progressive for many years to come. He would suggest, however, that the shareholders should not be too eager for dividends, but that the profits should for some time to come be re-invested in the further development of the mines, for by the adoption of that course the permanency and amount of the dividends would be the more readily ensured. (Hear, hear.)

The report of the directors was received and adopted unanimously. The retiring directors were re-elected, and the auditors re-appointed.

The meeting was then made special, when, upon the proposition of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by the Hon. HOWE BROWNE, a resolution was unanimously passed to sanction the directors to exercise their borrowing powers to any amount not exceeding £20,000.

Mr. PRICE, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman and directors, stated that he had never met in all his experience a Chairman who so lucidly fully and explained the position of a company, or one so urban in his conduct. (Hear, hear.)

The proposition having been duly seconded, was put and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN acknowledged the compliment, which terminated the proceedings.

THE DUN MOUNTAIN COPPER MINING COMPANY.

An ordinary general meeting of shareholders was held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Wednesday, —Mr. SCLANDERS in the chair.

The notice convening the meeting having been read, the minutes of the last were approved.

The report of the directors stated that, about two years ago, the directors, with the concurrence of the proprietors, dispatched to Nelson Capt. Cock, a practical mining agent, with three assistants, for the purpose of testing the mineral resources of the property; and they also entrusted him, under the direction of the committee there, with the general management of the affairs in the colony. Since that time the directors have received numerous reports from him, as from time to time he prosecuted his explorations. The directors regret that the general tenor of them is not so as to confirm the sanguine expectations which were held out at the original formation of the company. Although copper ore exists on the mountain, it cannot, in the opinion of Capt. Cock, so far as has at present been discovered, be worked at a profit. The chrome ore is found in considerable abundance, but it is patchy, and mixed up with the hard rock, so as to render any extraction a work of labour and expense. Nevertheless, Capt. Cock has carefully selected 190 tons of ore of a high percentage, which are now in transitu, and may be expected in the course of the next month. The wood and lime business has been worked at a small profit, and the proceeds have been sufficient to pay the expenses in the colony. The directors have every reason to be satisfied with the manner in which Capt. Cock has fulfilled the many and difficult duties assigned to him, and they place implicit reliance on the truthfulness of his expressed opinions. If the company were more sound in its financial condition, the directors, urged on by the communications which they have received from several influential and large shareholders, would, in compliance with their wishes, have kept it afloat on the small profit before alluded to, with a view to its further development, and to the future advantages which will naturally arise to the landed interest in Nelson from the recent important discoveries of gold, and the rapid increase of population there. But inasmuch as the debenture and obligation bonds offered by the company have already become due, and it is not even in a position to pay the interest upon them; and there are other creditors who, having advanced money on ore in hand by way of collateral security, which does not admit of immediate realisation, press the company for repayment, the directors are advised that there is no other course for them to pursue than to recommend the voluntary winding-up of the undertaking. Should, therefore, the shareholders concur in this mode of action, an extraordinary general meeting of the company will be held immediately after the close of the ordinary meeting.

The CHAIRMAN, previous to moving that the report be received and adopted, mentioned that he had received a letter from their worthy Chairman, Mr. Arnold Rogers, wherein he very much regretted that his state of health would not allow him to take the chair upon this occasion, but expressed his willingness to co-operate with the shareholders in the adoption of any course they might deem most desirable. The proprietors were aware by the report placed in their hands what was the company's position—that the chrome had not turned out to be of the quality expected, the result of which was that they were brought to a dead-lock. This, he need hardly say, the board very much regretted, because when the last capital was subscribed there appeared good reason to suppose it would be most advantageously employed, and that the mines would be profitably worked. The board had full expectations that they would have been able to meet the bonds, and they could only express their great sorrow that circumstances had transpired to induce the board to come before the shareholders in this mode of action, an extraordinary general meeting of the company will be held immediately after the close of the ordinary meeting.

A SHAREHOLDER asked the realisable value of the land, which was placed in the balance-sheet at £4000. —The CHAIRMAN said the land was put down at cost price. The board had never yet enquired its value, although they could form, no doubt, a tolerably correct opinion as to its value. If its sale were to be forced, probably it would not realize what it cost, whereas it was generally supposed it would become of increasing value.

Mr. BROMFIELD said he was a large share and bondholder, and represented others largely interested in the company, and, regarding this meeting as one of very great importance, he had travelled some considerable distance in order to be present. He was bound to say that he had the greatest hesitation in giving his concurrence to the proposal for winding-up, unless the object in view was to appoint the directors the liquidators, in order that the undertaking might be reconstituted. He had the greatest confidence in the directors, if for no other reason than that they had for a considerable period acted in a most disinterested manner. They were in the same boat with the shareholders, and interested to a much larger extent; and if there were an insolvent company without means to go on—in, in fact, time, was likely to make a worse—then there would be a strong argument in favour of the adoption of the proposal; but such was not the case, for at the present time they were actually working at a profit, and he saw no reason to conclude that that profit would diminish, but, on the contrary, there was reason to conclude it would increase. In the first place, the expenses at Nelson were more than balanced by the receipts, for there was left a net profit of £800 per month, which was equal to £900 per annum. Indeed, that did not represent the whole of the net profit, for the value of the chrome raised—the cost of which was, of course, deducted—was not calculated. It was to be recollected that the chrome now sent home had a real value, so that he was not drawing upon uncertainties when he computed its value at £1 per ton. The present rate of production was 20 tons per month, which would give £1200 per annum, and that, added to the £900, showed that at the present moment the operations of the company were producing an actual net profit of £2100 per annum—a result which had never before been realized since the company was formed.

In the second place, shareholders must bear in mind that if they determined to wind-up the undertaking, there did not exist the ghost of a chance that a single farthing would be returned; therefore, they could not possibly be worse off by delaying the adoption of such a course; and the same remarks equally applied to the debenture and bondholders. Under these circumstances he should strongly oppose the proposal to wind-up, unless to wind-up meant to go on in another form. A point of great importance was the value of the company's land—he knew something of New Zealand, having held property in Nelson, and so satisfied was he that land would continue to largely increase in value that he had forwarded instructions to his agent not to dispose of another acre. Now, this company held 3000 acres in and about Nelson, and that was one very strong reason why the company should not be wound-up in the ordinary acceptance of the term. He thought it was quite possible to re-constitute the company upon a basis somewhat as follows:—The nominal capital to be £40,000, the capital of the present company, including debts, being £10,000. The bondholders and obligation holders would be offered £10,000, with £1,000 per annum, which would be equal to a premium of 50 per cent. Supposing that three-fourths of the bond and obligation holders accepted the shares in the new company, 15,000 shares would thereby be taken up; and supposing that the shareholders were offered one share in the new company, with £10 paid up, for every four now held, it would be equal to £25,000 per original share, the value of which in the present company was not worth a farthing. There would then be left for contingencies 5000 shares. Upon the completion of such an arrangement as this he would immediately call up 50 per share, by means of which the one-fourth of the creditors who refused to join in the new company could be paid off at £10 per share. That would leave £2500 in cash to carry out the undertaking, whereas the actual requirements needed little or no cash, and simply because they were receiving instead of paying, so that there would be no necessity to issue the 5000 shares, which he suggested should be held as a reserve. Furthermore, upon the capital there would be paid, even according to the present returns, a dividend equal to 5 per cent. per annum. Therefore, for the first time since this had been a company results were being produced by which the shareholders would be able to receive a dividend; and looking at the future, knowing that the Dun Mountain contained mineral wealth, he thought it would be a thousand pities to allow it to pass into other hands, and the more especially when they knew there were numerous instances in which properties were given up just upon the eve of great discoveries being made. Looking, too, at the improved quality of their chrome, the improved mode of treating it to the various ways it was being employed, and that while they were working for chrome there was always—according to the opinion of Dr. Hochstatter, the celebrated Australian geologist—the chance of discovering beds of copper, he could but say that it would be most suicidal to wind-up the company, in the sense of turning the key in the door. (Hear, hear.) Let them all agree to invest Mr. Rogers, the Chairman, and Mr. Sclanders, the Deputy-Chairman, with the power of liquidating the company for the benefit of the shareholders, and with the view of continuing the undertaking. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HYDE (a director) believed that the information they now received from their property was of a much more reliable character than that which they had ever before received; but, at the same time, although the mine was being worked at a less cost, and the chrome sent home was of a much better quality, yet they were not selling that ore to enable them to meet the expenditure upon this side, and although the directors had

never received any remuneration for their services, they could not expect the secretary and clerks to act in a similar way. The directors, however, would do anything with the view of carrying on the company; and should the suggestion of Mr. Bromfield be adopted, Messrs. Rogers and Sclanders would do all they possibly could to form a new company, for the benefit of the present shareholders. He (Mr. Hyde) had no doubt the property would, sooner or later, become of very great value. They knew that it contained large quantities of chrome, and if its value in the market should increase, it would produce remunerative results, because their manager was able to return a superior quality at a reduced cost.

Mr. JOHNSON said the whole of the shareholders had perfect confidence in the Chairman and the directors, and if the Chairman and Deputy-Chairman would kindly undertake the winding-up of the company, they would all be benefited. (Hear, hear.)

The report of the directors was received, and adopted unanimously; and the meeting having been made special, a resolution was passed that the company be wound-up voluntarily.

Upon the proposition of Mr. WRIGHT, seconded by Mr. MORLEY, the Chairman (Mr. Arnold Rogers) and the Deputy-chairman (Mr. Sclanders) were unanimously appointed liquidators.

The CHAIRMAN, on behalf of Mr. A. Rogers, and on his own part, thanked the shareholders for this renewed mark of confidence, and assured them that everything would be done for the benefit of the shareholders.

A unanimous vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman and directors for the unremunerated services they had rendered the company. The meeting then separated.

GREAT MONA MINING COMPANY (ISLE OF MAN).

The first general meeting of shareholders was held at the Clarendon Rooms, Liverpool, on Tuesday, —Mr. E. W. THOMAS in the chair. There was a numerous attendance, and the proceedings were of a highly satisfactory nature. After the notice convening the meeting had been read by Mr. J. TAYLOR (the secretary), and a few preliminary remarks by the CHAIRMAN, Mr. J. MEGGIN was called upon to read the report, from which it appeared that the company was registered Sept. 4, and that Captain James Ashe, of Ramsey, had acted temporarily as manager of the mine, but that subsequently Captain John KITTO, late of the Great Laxey, was engaged, and now is general manager for the company, and Capt. Trewin manager at the mine. It also appeared that already a considerable quantity of both copper and lead ore had been brought to the surface, and now awaited machinery for dressing, &c.

Capt.

made the coal extracted will be run into the holds of ships. A village is to be formed near the mine and the erection of an hospital and a church is also contemplated. It is proposed to bring 250 Englishmen and their families to the place; by this means it is calculated that 500 tons of coal will be raised daily, and at this rate of extraction the mine would, it is stated, remain workable for 100 years. It is estimated that the formation of the village and of the railway and jetty at Eleftherokori, as well as its installation, the bringing workmen to the spot, &c., will involve a total outlay of 200,000. An Egyptian steamer has taken 50 tons of coal from the mine, and in a voyage between Salonic and Constantinople this coal was found to be of superior quality; its specific gravity is less, and it takes more room for ton than English coal. The attention of the great French steam shipping company, the Messageries Impériales, has been directed to this mine.

At Havre, Chilean has been more and more feeble; disposable has been dealt in at 90.7 per ton; 20 tons deliverable in March have realised 91.7, and 20 tons deliverable in the second fortnight of April have made 92.4 per ton. On the other hand, United States copper has obtained very high prices, the sale being mentioned of a small lot, Minnesota mark, at 124.7 per ton. The Rotterdam market has been quiet; Drontheim has made 68.8 per ton, and English and United States 65.8. The Hamburg market has received very few orders, and affairs in consequence display little animation; prices have remained without variation. The tone of the Cologne and Berlin markets has been satisfactory, notwithstanding the rather restricted amount of business done. On the Dutch markets the announcement of an approaching sale by the Society of Commerce has greatly restricted business, both buyers and sellers remaining in an attitude of expectation. At Rotterdam some lots of Banca have been dealt in at 83.4 per ton; Bilbion remains at 53.8 per ton. At Cologne the article has displayed a slight downward tendency. Berlin has remained without any very great change, but transactions have displayed little activity. The Stettin market has remained without animation. At Paris affairs have been quiet; prices show no change. At Hamburg affairs have continued inactive, but principally in consequence of the little stock; prices are, however, tolerably well sustained. At Cologne the demand for exports leaves something to be desired, and as a consequence of this fact prices have slightly given way; at Berlin a contrary state of affairs prevails, some rather numerous purchases having been concluded, as well for export as for interior consumption. At Stettin there have been few variations. The Paris market remains quiet; prices have experienced no variations. At the end of the week ending Feb. 17 the article closed rather feebly at Hamburg, but prices have since regained what they had lost, and even show a slight advance. At Cologne the demand has been very active. The Berlin market has displayed favourable tendencies. At Breslau the article has been very much sought after, and has risen somewhat. The same may be said of the Stettin market. At Paris prices have been sustained, but transactions have not been very active.

The advance in the price of pig and iron in Belgium and England must naturally react in France; we may, then, expect to see affairs become more active, while quotations will improve. At St. Dizier charcoal-made pig is quoted at 47.9s.; mixed pig, 32.14s. to 47. per ton, according to the proportions of the mixture; rolled iron from charcoal-made pig, 92. to 97.4s.; ditto from mixed pig, 87.16s.; ditto from coke-made pig, 87. to 87.8s.; hammered iron, 10.12s. to 107.16s.; machine iron from charcoal-made pig, 92.8s. to 97.12s.; ditto from mixed pig, 92.4s. to 97.8s.; ditto from coke-made pig, 87.16s per ton. Warrants are little sought after. As regards coal, it may be noted that the collieries of the Nord and the Pas-de-Calais have just advanced their rates. The Alsace Forges and Foundries Company, the Robiac and Bassedac Colliery Company, and the Terre Noire, La Voute, and Bessières Forges and Foundries Company have concluded an agreement with the Paris, Lyons, and Mediterranean Railway Company, which assures them the advantage of an immediate reduction of tariffs on the Bassedac and Alsace section, in consideration of a participation in the charges resulting to the Paris, Lyons, and Mediterranean from the cession of that line. The shareholders in the concern known as the Chantiers et Ateliers de l'Océan have just held their annual meeting, under the presidency of M. de Gérardin. The company's affairs were stated to be in an excellent position; they admitted of a dividend of 27 per share for 1865; of this dividend 17. will be payable May 1, the other half having been already distributed. The council of administration was authorised to contract a loan of 140,000, the concern requiring further capital in connection with its largely increasing business.

TRUTH'S ECHOES, OR SAYINGS AND DOINGS IN MINING.

The Mining Share Market has not been very active this week, although the usual fortnightly account, which took place on Wednesday, may have created a little more business for the settlement; but the chief transactions appear to have been in Choncales, Frontale and Bollivin, and a few other foreign speculations. The market generally continues heavy, and a further decline in the copper standard is not likely to improve it. The rumoured "strike" among the miners in the eastern district of Cornwall and around Tavistock will, no doubt, contribute further gloom; but it is to be hoped so disastrous a proceeding, both as regards the men and the mines, will result in an easy and satisfactory arrangement. The alarm appears to be far greater than the remedy, which is evidently simple.

WHEAL SETON and WEST SETON have changed hands during the week, but prices have fluctuated.—CLIFFORDS have been in fair demand, and numerous transactions reported.—WHEAL BASSETT have been enquired for, but prices vary.—TINCROFTS have been dealt in at fair market quotations.—EAST BASSETT have changed hands at slightly improved rates.—BULLERS have been less active.—EAST CARN BREA have been enquired for at buyers' prices.—CARN CAMBORNE are sought for at minimum figures.—SOUTH CONDURROWS have been done at lower rates.—WEST CHIVERTONs have been less active, but apparently firm at present quotations.—CHIVERTON MOORS have been fairly dealt in, and left off firmer.—GREAT LAXEYS continue in request, and several bargains effected.—GREAT NORTH LAXEYS have been in demand, but rather weaker.

NORTH TRESKEDDYS have been rather largely dealt in, but prices have varied.—SOUTH DARRENS have been in good demand at advanced rates, but left off slightly weaker.—GREAT BUST and HALLENBEAGLES are quiet at present quotations.—WHEAL ROSE shares were enquired for at buyers' prices.—GREAT WHEAL VORS continue good at improved prices, and likely to further improve.—EAST WHEAL LOVELLS have changed hands at better figures, and are apparently firmer.—ROSEWARNE CONSOLS have been dealt in, and still find buyers at lower rates.—ROSEWARNE UNITED are improving, and in demand at buyers' figures.—PROVIDENCE MINE shares are good, but not plentiful.—EAST CARADONS have been in better request, and from improved prospects at the mine are likely to advance.—MARKE VALLEYS are firm, and in fair demand at minimum quotations.—WEST CARADONS have been enquired for, and some shares changed hands at nominal quotations.—HINGTON, DOWN and DRAKE WALLS are quiet.—PRINCE OF WALES shares have been sought for at lower rates.—CREBORDS and EAST RUSSELLS have been more than ordinarily heavy.—LADY BERTHES have been done at minimum quotations.

EAST CARADON.—The new south lode intersected in the 70, as noticed last week, continues to look very well, and yielding the same quantity of copper ore. The 70 fathom level ends, east and west, on the south lode, have further improved, and are now worth 24. per fathom, together. The caunter and new lodes are without any alteration—looking very promising, especially the 90 east, or caunter.

DEVON WHEAL LOPEZ.—The boisterous weather has retarded the surface operations, yet the coasting continues, by which several promising lodes have been laid open. The pitwork will now be shortly on the ground, when no time will be lost to put the wheel to work and drain the mine, and every exertion used to make up for the length of time waiting the delivery of pumps, &c., arising from the intervention of unexpected events.

EDEN-AN-DREAS is represented to have very much improved in several important places, and looking generally far better than for some months past. Important results are fully anticipated on the intersection of Skinner's lode by the 90 and 130 fm. level cross-cuts, which is daily expected, from the change of ground and the quantities of water percolating through the ends.

CLOWANCE WOOD.—This mine has been recently inspected by Capt. Pope, who has given a very satisfactory report, and strongly recommends the sinking of the engine-shaft, believing that the lode seen in the 20 will make rich at a deeper level, and coincides by observing that he has inspected nearly all the mines in Cornwall, but looking at Clowance Wood, with the several lodes laid open in the adit level, with the favourable stratum so highly mineralised, he considers it to be one of the best pieces of unexplored mining property in Cornwall.

CHIVERTON MOOR continues to improve; the lode in the 40 west is worth 5.25 tons of silver-lead per fathom for the portion carried. This lode is considered to be the rich Vaux lode of West Chiverton. A fine course of lead for 15 fathoms in length has been driven through, and there is little doubt on the 50 being cut that a permanent paying mine will be the result. The shaft is expected to be down to the 50 fm. level in about eight weeks.

ROSEWALL HILL AND RANSOM UNITED.—The prospects here are favourable, and encouraging, although they are not so good as represented a few months since. The 110, east of Ransom's, is improving. The 100 is worth from 15. to 20. per fm. The 90 is at present disordered, but has proved rich up to that point, and may prove so again on passing through the channel of ground causing the failure. There is a winze sinking below the level, worth 20. per fathom, and a stope above and below the same level, valued at 27. per fathom together. The 55 fm. level east is worth 20. per fathom. There is a good lode in the 170, east of engine-shaft, worth 20. per fm., and preparations are making to resume sinking at once. There are two points in the 170, worth together 18. per fm.

SOUTH LOVELL.—The 12 west is reported to have improved, yielding rich stones of tin, and from the character of the lodes there is strong grounds for anticipating an important discovery here. There have been numerous lodes laid open, all of which are more or less productive of tin, and notwithstanding the obstacles which have precluded rapid progress in clearing up the old workings, there is not the least doubt of this becoming a permanent and paying mine; indeed, its position and prospects are more than ordinarily good.

JAMES LANE.

From Mr. EDWARD COOKE.—A moderate amount of business has been done during the week, and in some instances at advanced prices; but the low price of both tin and copper is a great incusus to the mining interest. EAST CARADON is again improving, and it will not surprise me to see this mine again attain a favourable position. TRESKEDDAN is also looking very well. It really appears that Treseavan will again become an important mining property; yet, strange to say, that although in 501 shares only, and under the most economical management, it is selling at less than 81. per share. It is quite within the range of probability that, instead of selling at this price, the shares may one day be 50. GREAT NORTH LAXEY still holds out prospects that justify all that I have previously written about it; and, although I have it from the very best authority that the lode at the shaft would at no period produce 4 tons of lead per fm., the mine, in all probability will, in the course of time, become a very important one indeed. The gradual improvements in the character of the lode at the deepest points justify the expectation that when a still greater depth is attained it will be productive of large quantities of lead. CHIVERTON MOOR is opening up well, and, doubtless, become a very valuable mine when properly developed. EAST WHEAL LOVELL still maintains a good appearance, and is raising fair quantities of tin, which will be sold when the price of this metal improves, and this, I think, will be the case before another month transpires. It is satisfactory to find that WHEAL GRYE is selling tin enough to pay its current cost, even at this depressed period for that metal. THE IMPERIAL WELSH STATE COMPANY is progressing very satisfactorily. Of course, it is difficult in these dull times to induce the public to invest freely in new companies; but of this I feel confident, if the capital required for the proper working of these quarries be subscribed it will result in very large profits to those who embark their capital in it. For the first year 5 per cent. is guaranteed, and for the second 7½ per cent., upon the paid-up capital. I feel confident, however, that the actual profits upon the returns of the quarries will far exceed the 7½ guaranteed. In fact, it will be a gradually increasing profitable property, and I would strongly impress upon anyone seeking a permanent investment not to lose the opportunity of investing in the Imperial Welsh State and Slab Company, and I would caution my friends against confounding this company with another of a similar title, but with the modest capital of 150,000. The Imperial Welsh state and slab is of an excellent quality; and, what is of most importance, the quantity is, practically speaking, inexhaustible, and the working of them will be attended with

large profits. The HOLLOWAY COLLIERY AND COKE WORKS COMPANY may be said to be fairly launched, and I shall soon have a few remarks to make upon the progress of this company. Suffice it to say that it is an investment that anyone may embark in with the view of getting at least 10 per cent. per annum.

From Mr. THOMAS SPARGO.—Having retired from the office of secretary in the various public companies in which I held that position, I am prepared to devote my entire time to the business of a broker, for which my experience peculiarly fits me, having been engaged in business connected with mining more than 20 years—ten years in practical mining, and the remainder at Gresham House.

The present condition of the mining interest is peculiar, absolutely re

quiring on the part of investors the most intelligent and experienced advice in every step taken by them. The state of the metal market is peculiar in character, and much depressed. The war between Spain and Chili will not affect hereafter the price of copper so much as is generally believed. An effectual blockade cannot be maintained, the length of coast is such that were the whole navy of Spain free for that one object a blockade could only be kept up at the principal ports. The addition of the Peruvian navy to that of Chili increases the defensive force fourfold, which force will, in fact, be used rather as aggressive than defensive, avoiding general engagements, and prey on the merchant marine of their enemy, copper will find its way out pretty freely, in spite of the Spanish navy. The alleged discovery of several copper mines of great richness, and of easy access, in Peru, if the information be correct, an event likely to influence the markets for copper in Europe. It is also reported that several very valuable discoveries of copper have been made in the Straits. The demand for metals in the United States of America will greatly increase. In proportion as the work of reconstruction goes on, numbers of free settlers from New England, the Atlantic sea-board States, and Europe, will flock into the Gulf States and the South-west, investing their capital in agricultural pursuits and planting; the shattered railways will be replaced and extended, new lines will be spread like a net over the whole South, as is already the case in the North. Manufactures such as are likely to flourish in the Southern States will be set on foot, and commerce generally receive an activity such as can only be conceived by those who are acquainted with American resources and activity, and have given attention to the probabilities and prospects now opening up. The demand for metals must under such circumstances be enormous, causing prices to advance, and giving activity to our mining operations, great as the discoveries have been in the Straits, of the former, and copper recently, the supply will, we think, scarcely keep pace with the demand, as the whole American continent increases in population and commercial enterprise, and the vast colonial empire of Great Britain so rapidly becomes populous and powerful. Cornwall needs some fillip for her mining interest. Not only are there low prices, dear money, and a general condition of things depressed and unpromising, there are also especial circumstances and influences which bear unfavourably; it is, for instance, a considerable time since any important discovery has been made in the county. Probably since the revival in Cornish mining operations so long a time has not elapsed during which no rich discovery has been made, yet we cannot bring ourselves to believe that there are no more rich treasures of ore in the bosom of our great mining county as yet not opened to the hand of enterprise. In my work, entitled "The Mines of Cornwall and Devon," describing a particular district, I made these remarks—"It is a striking fact connected with this general condition of country, that on the north-east side of the granite, for instance from Lesnewth to Lizard, there is no corresponding development of metal. It is more than merely possible that rich veins are in that ground, which will be discovered hereafter, as accident or advanced science may determine. Providence may reserve the riches of many districts in this manner until human knowledge and human wants make it compatible with the economy of Nature to bring them forth." A very unfortunate influence has been brought to bear upon the mining interests of Cornwall lately—the junction of the operative miners with trade unions. The bold adoption of the rules and usages of combinations, which have wrought much mischief, has started those least acquainted with the Cornish miners. There has been a recent strike, quite in character with such performances when carried out by the trades unions organised in our great cities. At all events, in one district of the county of Cornwall the agents and owners have felt it necessary to combine also, and a warfare of class is menaced, which every friend of the interest itself, and of the miner, must deplore. If our voice could reach the workers in our mines, we would assure them that no time could be less favourable to strike than the present; we would tell them that while money is dear, and prices depressed, the miner cannot dictate terms. We do not think the working miner overpaid, we are favourable to his better remuneration when circumstances permit, and also to the mitigation of his condition in various respects, but strikes and combinations will prove his destruction, by breaking up the harmony which has hitherto existed between employers and employed, and impeding the progress of a business more sensitive than any other. The dissatisfaction which exists with the smelters on the part of those whose capital is engaged in working the mines is a matter that should be examined in the interest of this trade; we cannot concur with some writers in the Journal, that the caprice and selfishness of the smelters is the chief cause of the depression in the price of tin, but we are sure that the relations between those classes should be placed on a better footing. It is obvious that no season could be more favourable for investors. The low price of mining stock in the market presents extraordinary opportunities for well-guided investors to secure valuable property. Any capitalist who possesses the counsel of a judicious agent, thoroughly acquainted with mining affairs, who chooses to purchase at the present depreciated prices, may realise almost unprecedented profits, for when the contingencies which now fetter the trade are cast off, and activity is restored, the advance in the market value of shares will be great and rapid. We could point out various directions in which it would be impossible for the investor to err, or even out to seek extensive profits.

From Mr. LELEAN.—The markets for both stocks and shares are quite good—indeed, a little better than they were last week. Money has been in greater demand, and this and other circumstances, chiefly relating to the American markets, have, in all probability, prevented a further reduction in the official rate of discount. The condition of the Bank is favourable, as regards both its gold and its reserve, and we may fairly look for a reduction in the price of money, probably next week. In mining shares a good deal of business has been done, and prices have maintained themselves—in some mines advancing. Great Laxey, Great North Laxey, Little Laxey, Great Wheal Vors, West Chiverton, Chiverton Moors, Wheal Chiverton, South Darrons, Cliffords, East Caradons, East Grenville, Central Snailbeach, Rosewarne Consols, East Carn Brea, West Caradons, Chontales, and St. John del Reys, have been chiefly in demand. The reports from several of the mines are more than usually satisfactory and encouraging, and are evidently inducing investors to pay more attention to the fine opportunities they have of making money in mining adventures, with very little risk, if they only act with judgment and discretion. GREAT LAXEY is in a fine condition—I mean fine compared with what was almost incomparable before. Dumbells is taking them down into a fine mass of ore ground, and several points in the southern part of the mine exhibit improvements. The report to be made at the meeting on the 14th will be eminently satisfactory, notwithstanding that no steps have been taken for the erection of the smelter works. This will, indeed, be gratifying to some of the shareholders, who were never favourable to the projected works. The sales of ore for the six months ending Jan. 5, realised no less than 28,240.12s. 10d., leaving nearly 3500. worth of ore unsold; while the costs, including all expenses, were but 15,880.10s. 2d., leaving a profit of 15,942.14s. The dividends amounted to 14,374., the bonuses to 2750., and there is now a credit balance of 27,653.8s. 10d. I may just add, that the discovery in the Glen Roy is very good. Shares should certainly be purchased in the Great Laxey without delay. GREAT NORTH LAXEY still looks well, and a large business has been doing in the shares in the Isle of Man, and amongst those who well know the condition and prospects of the mine. The shares are again going up, and they will, with an occasional interruption, go still higher. EAST LAXEY is also opening well, and the shares are cheap at present quotations. EAST CARN BREA continues to improve, and the statement of accounts for November and December, laid before the meeting on Jan. 23, showed a small credit balance, the aggregate credit balance being 1105.2s. 10d. At CHIVERTON Moors there is a further improvement in the 40, east of flat-rod shaft; the lode is now 3 feet wide, and worth 30. per fathom. The lode in the 30, west of engine-shaft, is looking very promising. At WEST CHIVERTON the stopes continue to yield large quantities of lead. The 80 west, is still looking extremely well; and in the 90 and west the lode is 16 feet wide, and rich for lead throughout. The lode is not yet cut in the 100, but—no matter. At CHIVERTON there is nothing particular to note. The fixing of the plougher-lift in Cookney's is completed, and they are cutting plait, preparatory to sinking below the 86. At GREAT SOUTH CHIVERTON the shaft is still going down in a stratum most congenial for lead, and in every way like the lead-bearing ground of the rich mines in the district. They are 16½ fms. below the adit, and they repeat the assurance of reaching the 30 by the end of April. It should be stated that the cost-sheet is being considerably reduced, though the work continues the same as it was. Captains Nancarrow and George are making every effort in this direction, and they promise further results by the end of the next month. ROSEWARNE CONSOLS presents nothing new. The ground continues to open well both east and west, and there is but one opinion as to the value of the mine. There will be a rise in the shares before long. CENTRAL SNAILBEACH stands more favourable than ever—that is to say, the known facts in its favour are multiplied, and a short time will demonstrate the great value of the mine. I am recommending the shares for immediate purchase wherever I can do so. Capt. James Pope has just inspected and made a very favourable report of the CLOWANCE WOOD MINE. Looking at the ground in its relation to other mines, and the many lodes that run through it, intersected by cross-courses and cleavans, about which all the mines in the district make rich deposits of mineral, he has no doubt, he says, that if properly opened it will become one of the best pieces of unexplored mining property in Cornwall. The company seeks to raise 5000. in preference shares of 5s. each, taking 15 per cent. As a promising undertaking it is worthy the notice of speculators.

JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES, AND HOW TO FORM THEM.—In the course of this week bearing this title, Mr. Thomas Tapping, who is well known as a barrister who has had considerable experience in connection with public companies, furnishes every information which capitalists and intending vendors are likely to require in connection with the Companies Act, 1862. Not only is the mode of forming a company carefully and lucidly explained, but ample information is likewise given as to the system of management and administration that should be pursued after they are formed. Whilst carefully avoiding the uninteresting technical style usually met with in legal works, even when intended for non-professional readers, Mr. Tapping has been studious to omit nothing essential to the perfect comprehension of the law; he teaches the law without the legal technicalities. The work may be obtained through all booksellers for 1s., or by post direct from the *Mining Journal* office, 26, Fleet-street, London, for 1s. postage stamps.

"MORE SHELLS FOR THE OCEAN."—Under this title a handsome volume, partaking in its character of the style which has hitherto been almost monopolised by Mr. Timbs, has just been issued, through Messrs. Murray and Co., of Paternoster-row, by Mr. VALENTINE DURANT. The varied nature of the contents can best be judged of from a reference to the titles of the chapters, which are no fewer than 23 in number, including amongst them such attractive subjects as Woman, Society and the World, Vision of Poets, Oysters, Love, Shakespeare, Depression—Its Causes, Effects, and Cure, and Self-Respect. But the chapter which will doubtless claim the attention of the readers of the *Journal* is that on Gems, Jewels, and Precious Stones, in which some interesting sketches of the various precious stones are given in a style that cannot fail proving very instructive.

UNDERGROUND GOOD WISHES ANSWERED.—There was no sight more picturesque during the recent visit of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales to Cornwall than the group, of which they were the principal figures, gathered on a wooden platform 1300 feet beneath land and sea, their fanned dresses and powdered faces shown by the glimmer of a few miners' candles. Two or three tall cap-talets, they had never seen before, were their body guard, but they were as tenderly and loyally cared for as if in castle or Court. And when they had returned from their

inspection of the long, dark, tortuous tunnel called a level, and their position and surroundings were explained, it was in the heartiest way that Prince and Princess drank, in a bumper of champagne, propitious to Botallack, but especially success to the mine in its search after a lode which had "gone down" somewhere under the Royal visitors' feet. Months of patient toil have passed, and the lode is reached. Within the last few days a splendid lode of grey copper has been cut, worth 100. per fathom, and this value has increased to 200. a fathom. May it prove a right royal lode, for Botallack is doing, like many Cornish mines, an immense amount of work with scant remuneration.—*Cornish Telegraph*.

FOREIGN MINES.

ALTEN AND QUÆNANGEN.—Report from Jan. 14 to 28: Raipas. No change has taken place here, our operations being still confined to the shallow workings, with variable success. The vein of ore in the 30 fm. level south-west continues to yield some good work occasionally, but not sufficient to value.—Old Mine, South Working: We continue to meet with productive ground in the 10, going south, and the vein is yielding more ore as we proceed to develop the lode. The rise above the 10 fm. is improved further, and now yields from 5½ to 6 tons of ore per fm.; and the stopes going south in the same level is now fully worth 4½ tons per fm. The winze sinking from the north of the cross-cut is now down some fathoms in a good lode, producing good stones of ore, from which circumstances we hope to carry the lode with us until we reach the adit below. The stopes worked in the sides of the lode in the 10 and in the cross-cut are as last reported, and giving fair returns of ore. In the north workings the prospects remain good, some parts having improved, the general yield being on the average about 3 tons per fm. No change has taken place in Carr's adit; the ground being still very stiff, the progress made is, therefore, necessarily slow. From Quænangen we are without advice, probably owing to the terrific storms

Mining Correspondence.

BRITISH MINES.

BEDOL-AUR.—T. Pierce, H. Harvey, Feb. 28: Crofts' shaft is down 52 yards; the ground is still hard for progress. We have commenced to drive south-west on the Bell-Gwynn lode, which is highly congenial for lead. The lode in the 70 is temporarily disordered, and split up into branches, caused by a bed of shale which is above the level.

BILLINS.—F. Evans, March 1: I am pleased to inform you of an improvement for lead ore in the 70 fm. level west; the lode is about 1 ft. wide, made up of sand and lead ore, worth for the latter full 1 ton per fm., and likely to be better. The sump sinking below the 70, and to go down on the 80, is poor at present. A stop in the east of the sump is worth 1½ ton per fm. In the 80 west there is a little lead ore, and the ground more promising for lead; we expect to hoist this end to the winze in about three weeks or a month. Taking the mine altogether it looks very promising, and we shall sell 20 tons of lead ore next week.

BILLINS.—F. Evans, Feb. 27: At the present moment the 80 west is disordered by cross limestone, but will improve again there is no doubt. The 70 west is opening better again for lead, the lode being wider, producing good stones of ore, and judging from appearances will soon be to value. We expect to communicate the 80 to a winze sunk from the 70 about a month; the ground there is rather hard at present, which makes it spare for driving; however, when this is hoisted we shall be able to work on the ground passed through in the 80. We think to sample next sale 20 tons of lead ore.

—F. Evans, Feb. 28: We cut into some nice ore in the 70 west this evening, at present worth 1 ton per fm.

BOTTLE HILL.—J. Eddy, March 1: On Friday last the following bargains were set:—South, or Copper Lode: To drive the 12 west of shaft, by six men, at 57. 10s. per fm.; the lode in the present end is still disordered, but producing mantic and good stones of copper ore. The ground to-day is much easier for working than it was on Friday last, when the bargain was set. I have every reason to believe that we shall soon get through the elvan course, when we may expect the lode to make regular and good. We have whole ground for the length of our set on the course of this lode full ½ mile in length, and our present driving is 12 fms., below the adit level, or 24 fms. from surface, and our present end is now from 10 to 15 fms. east of the rich bunch of copper gone down in the bottom of the adit level; should we meet with the lode in this level now driving as rich as seen and proved to gone down in the bottom of the adit level it would make Bottle Hill quite a new mine.—Main Lode: The 34, east of Williams's shaft, to present more of the character of a lead vein than copper. This is an interesting feature, which at the present shaft depth would be premature to speculate upon, further than that we in no sense regard it unfavourably. We hope to resume sinking the shaft in about a month from this. The adit end north is now 18 fathoms from the shaft. The lode at present temporarily disturbed by a wedge of rock, but still yielding good stones of carbonate and sulphur of copper occasionally. No change in No. 1 adit end.

EARL PROVIDENCE.—J. Nancarrow, W. White, Feb. 27: The lode in the 50, east of Boorman's, 1 ft. wide, worth 51. per fm. The 60 end east is worth 41. per fm. The lode in the 70 east is 1 ft. wide, worth 41. per fm. The lode in the 82 east is 2 ft. wide, looks promising, and yields tin to save. There is no lode taken down in the 82 west.

BRYNFORD HALL.—T. Kemp, Feb. 28: Settings for March: The cross-cut west of winze, to cut through the south part of the lode, to two men, at 11s. per fm.; the lode is still hard for progress. The stope east and west of winze, in the back of this level, to 12 men, at 50s. per fm.; the lode here is improved, and is now worth 30 cwt. per fm. The men at the new shaft are making good progress with cutting the platt; the lode here is about 7 ft. wide, and worth about 61. per fm. Also a pitch east and west of the new shaft, in the back of the 12, to eight men, tribute at 13s. 4d. in 11.; the takers to pay all cost for returning their men.

BRONFLOYD UNITED.—T. Kemp, Feb. 28: Settings for March: The cross-cut west of winze, to cut through the south part of the lode, to two men, at 11s. per fm.; the lode is still hard for progress. The stope east and west of winze, in the back of this level, to 12 men, at 50s. per fm.; the lode here is improved, and is now worth 30 cwt. per fm. The men at the new shaft are making good progress with cutting the platt; the lode here is about 7 ft. wide, and worth about 61. per fm. Also a pitch east and west of the new shaft, in the back of the 12, to eight men, tribute at 13s. 4d. in 11.; the takers to pay all cost for returning their men.

BRYN GWYN.—H. Nottingham, Feb. 27: The run of ore going south from incline continues hard; the vein is about 12 in. wide, composed of spar, mixed with lead ore and calamine. We expect an alteration for the better daily. In the new discovery the vein is still very strong, but we do not see quite so much ore as we did last week; we can fully expect to drop on good ground here every day. No change in the south cross-cut, from Grange's shaft. The 86 yard back level, south-west from Grange's, is presenting very good indications. We have commenced to rise from the level to test the lode above this; it is yielding a little ore, and we are looking daily for an improvement.

BOTTLE HILL.—J. Eddy, March 1: On Friday last the following bargains were set:—The joint being rather close, and ground stiff for driving. This end will be suspended for a few days, until we have the sumps in readiness for driving the stuff to the incline. The above joint going north from incline is narrow, but continues to yield a small quantity of ore. We have commenced sinking in the end of the south level, south side of incline, and are getting some nice lumps of ore—some being 1½ cwt. each. This is lying east and west, but I think if there is a run of ore here we are not fairly into it yet. The level driving south, west from lower part of the incline, is in soft hanging ground, which has taken a drop at this place. The sump sinking in bottom of incline is without change.

CALSTOCK CONSOLS.—W. B. Collom, March 1: The Danescombe lode east continues to yield from 2 to 3 tons of ore per fm.; we shall commence driving west on the ore in a few days. On the engine-shaft lode, in the western level, we have commenced a rise in back of the level, in a lode 2 ft. wide, of white iron, mantic, quartz, and some copper ore.

CAPE CORNWALL.—Ralph P. Goldsworthy, Feb. 28: The lode in the 100 end is large, the quality of the tin-stuff is improved, and good ventilation is now secured by the hoisting the sump-wings from the 90. We are now enlarging the platt in the 100. When the same is completed we shall cut a fork and prepare to sink the engine-shaft. The lode in the 100 stope west retains its size and value fully. The lode in the 90, east end, is 7 ft. wide, composed of spar, peach, and prian, producing stamping work. We shall reach the junction (granite) by driving about 10 fathoms more, which we deem a very important point. No change to notice in the 90 fm. level stope; this remark will also apply to the 80 end east, on the south lode. We have set the 70 fm. level stope on tribute, at 13s. 4d. in 11. The 70 end west is without change. The engineers are engaged in the erection of the engine, which we shall accomplish without delay. The weather has been favourable the last few days for our surface operations, which we are pushing on with all possible speed.

CARADON AND PHENIX CONSOLS.—Wm. Richards, Feb. 28: The lode in the 100 end is 4 ft. wide, containing capel, quartz, peach, prian, an increase of mantic, and some good quality copper ore. I am glad to inform you that a considerable improvement has taken place in the character of the ground, and the No. 2 lode driving west of the cross-cut; the lode is 5 ft. wide, containing less capel, more quartz, peach, prian, an increase of mantic, good stones of yellow copper ore, and ½ ton of blende per fm.; the prospects here are very cheering and encouraging. The wheel-pit is nearly completed, and quite ready for the engineers.

CARADON CONSOLS.—S. Bennetts, Feb. 27: The lode in the 80 west continues very promising, is 1½ ft. wide, worth 41. per fm. In the east end in the bottom of the level the lode has improved. The only alteration to notice in the rise is a slight change in the character of the ground close by the lode, forming a sort of capels.

CARDIGAN CONSOLS.—Henry Boundy, Feb. 27: The lode in the boundary adit is showing some good spots of copper ore, and likely to improve.—Copper Shaft: The lode in the 20 has become more settled, and letting out water freely, which is a sign we like to see.—Eagairfrith: The lode in the adit east continues to yield good stones of copper ore. The shaftmen are still engaged in making the necessary arrangements for sinking. Our dressing at present is at a standstill, owing to the very severe frost and snow.

CASHWELL.—John Pearl, Feb. 28: Our operations here are much the same as they were last month. We shall commence to rise into the slatey hazel in a few days, where we expect some further improvements. The eastern level, or Donk's, will be cleared next week; this is 1½ miles from our engine-shaft, and proves the entire distance.

CASTELL CARN DOCHAN (Gold).—J. Parry, Feb. 28: We were obliged to stop the stamps this morning owing to the hard frost, so we commenced clearing the coffers, &c., to obtain the remainder of the gold produced for the month; but until a thaw we shall not be able to amalgamate the copper stuff. In the meantime we shall put in some new stamp-heads and do some repairs. We have drawn 80s. 1½ dws. and 240 tons. I shall send an account of the settings next week. We have about 300 tons of stuff un stamped on the bank, and shall put more men to rise as soon as the deep adit has reached the lode. The thickness of the bar of greenstone overlying the lode in the shallow adit (and which was driven through) is 18 yards; the deep adit has gone through 14 yards of it, and if the dip continues at the same rate a few fathoms to the shallow adit, the lode must be within 3 yards of the present end of the deep adit. All the machinery works well. Very little gold escapes over the blankets after concentration. All this goes afterwards through the cradles, which catch about 6 to 8 dws. a day. It then passes through the Hungarian, which are constantly at work. I have never been able to detect a spec of gold in the tailings in the bates, and by assay we can find only a trace, so that, practically, we think all the gold is extracted from the lode stuff. The concentrate blanket-sand is all passed through the British and Mosheimer pans. The Mosheimer pans answer well here. They are very little trouble, and seldom require repairs. A few more could be attached to the present shaft with advantage. The four new Britten's are completely fixed and ready for work as soon as the frost goes away. When the deep adit reaches the lode our labour expenses will be considerably reduced, and the lode stuff will be trammed direct to the stamps. The rails are laid down.

CENTRAL MINERA.—T. Hughes, March 1: Victoria Engine-shaft: Every point is being pushed on with all speed, but there is no material alteration to notice since last reported.

CLARA UNITED.—J. Lester, Feb. 28: The lode in the 50 west has much improved during this week; it will in the present end yield from 20 to 25 cwt. of lead ore per fm. The lode in the cross-cut, south of the 40, is not yet through; it continues a fair mixture of lead ore. The stope above the 50 continue to yield about 1½ ton per fm. The frost has this morning stopped our drawing-machine.

CLOWANCE WOOD.—E. Chegwin, Feb. 26: The lead lode in the 20, north from engine-shaft, is 1½ ft. wide, producing good stones of lead. We have not as yet discovered the north part of the east and west lode, but are daily expecting to do so; from the increase of water and crossings in the channel of ground we may naturally expect to meet with it shortly. In the 20, driving east from cross-cut, the east and west lode is 2 ft. wide, composed of peach, quartz, and good stones of copper ore; about 30 fms. east from the present end is a large elvan course, against which the lodes were so very productive in the adjoining mine (Crenver and Wheal Abraham); no doubt as we approach the elvan course we shall have similar results; this lode, driving west from the cross-cut, 10 in. wide, producing stones of copper ore; at present disordered by cross-banches, from which much water issues; this indicates softer ground before us, and a larger lode. In conclusion, I can only add that from every foot of ground opened on the lodes at the 20 I feel more than ever convinced that, if our future operations are carried out in the manner I have before recommended, you will have a first-class mining property.

—J. Pope, Feb. 24: I find the engine-shaft is sunk as deep as the 20 below the adit, and a cross-cut driven north, which has intersected a lode, on which is laid open about 14 fathoms in length; lode varying in size from 1 to 2 ft. wide, composed of quartz and blende, with good stones of copper ore, and with every indication of making a rich lode at a deeper level, the strata being highly mineralised, and very much improved in appearance in the last 2 or 3 fms. sinking. In the 20 cross-cut north, which is on a lead lode, the lode is large, and letting out water freely, composed of mantic and good stones of lead—a very promising lode. This piece of mining property is traversed by several ledges of great promise, and intersected by cross-courses and elvans, about which all the mines in this district make rich deposits of mineral; also adjoins the Wheal Abraham Mine to the north; the whole have given immense profits to the shareholders. Looking at this piece of mining ground, and so many lodes quite unexplored, I have no hesitation in saying if properly laid open a rich mine will be found at some early period. I should strongly recommend the engine-shaft to be sunk with as much dispatch as possible to a deeper level (say the 40), when by cross-cutting about 30 fms., two lodes will be intersected, and from what can be seen at the adit level, the strata in which they are embedded, I have no doubt a good mine will be laid open for a trifling expense.

In conclusion, I beg to state that I have inspected nearly all the mines in Cornwall, but looking at Clowance Wood Mine, with the several lodes laid open at the adit level, with the favourable strata so highly mineralised, I consider it to be one of the best pieces of unexplored mining property in Cornwall, and can recommend it as such to any company of gentlemen inclined to speculate in mining.

CLOWANCE AND WENDRON.—R. Reynolds, Feb. 27: The lode in the engine-shaft is about 2 ft. wide, producing stones of grey and native copper ore, the latter being favourable for copper at a deep point. The lode in the 48 east is about 18 in. wide, composed of quartz, chlorite, and mantic, with traces of copper ore. There is no change in the 35 west since last reported. The winze in the 35 fm. level east is 6 ft. below the level. The water has considerably fallen back, and the consumption of coals much easier than last month.

CUDDRA MINE.—F. Puckey, A. Candy, Feb. 27: In the 117 fm. level, west of

Walker's shaft, we have commenced driving a cross-cut north to cut through the lode, to prove its size and veins. At this point the lode is very hard and spare for progress, but looking very promising, and producing good stones of tin. The 105 fm. level, west of the same shaft, is still being continued in the kilns by the side of the lode. The ground in this end is favourable for driving. The lode in the different stopes in the bottom of this level, both east and west of No. 1 winze, is without alteration since our last week's report. In the No. 3, or new stope, in the back of the 105 fm. level west of Walker's shaft, the lode is looking very promising, composed of quartz, peach, iron, and tin, and worth 12c. per fm. All our operations underground are going on satisfactorily.

CROWAN CONSOLS.—Joseph Vivian, Feb. 28: The operations on the mine are without any alteration since last report.

DEVON AND CORNWALL UNITED.—T. Neill, Feb. 27: The ground in the 24 cross-cut north, west of Ley's shaft, is more favourable for progress. No change in the 24 east.—William and Mary: The lode in the 34, east of whin-shaft, is still looking west; lode 2 ft. wide, and worth 12c. per fm. All our operations underground are going on satisfactorily.

EAST CARADON.—J. Secombe, Feb. 28: All our men at present are out on strike.

EAST CARN BREA.—T. Gallopin, J. Scholar, Feb. 28: We have sampled to-day 326 tons of copper ore.

EAST JANE.—T. Hodge, March 1: In the 48, north of cross-course, nothing has been met with worthy of notice; the ground continues hard. In the 48 south, on the eastern branch, we are passing through a good channel of ground; the lode occasionally produces good stones of lead.

In the 48 south end, on the western part, the ground is still being continued in the 48 east. The 50 fm. level north, west of the 48 south end, is in the 48 south end, and the 50 west, poor.—New Lode: The 70 east is worth 10c. per fm.; the 80 east, 5c.; the 90 east, 10c.; and the 100 west, poor.—South Lode: The 60 east is producing saving work; the 70 east, 12c.; and the 70 west, 12c. per fm. The small lode to the south of the 70 east is worth 6c. per fm.

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EAST CARN BREA.—T. Gallopin, J. Scholar, Feb. 28: We have sampled to

NORTH BULLER.—R. Pryor, H. Harvey, Feb. 23: We have set to-day the 100 cross-cut to drive south of the engine-shaft by six men, at 14*f.* per fm.; the end is thickly impregnated with mastic, as if near a lode. The 100 to drive east of cross-cut, by four men, at 12*f.* per fm., in a lode 1*f.* wide, composed of mastic, peat, and spar, with a little copper ore, but we have not met with the elvan at this point as yet.

NORTH CHIVERTON.—Wm. Hancock, Feb. 27: The lode in the 60, east of old sump-shaft, will produce 2 tons of blende per fm., and about 3 cwt. of lead; in the same level west of the lode, the lode is about 3*f.* wide, producing about 15 cwt. of blende per fm., and 4 cwt. of lead; ground stiffer, with a large stream of water flowing from it, which we consider a good indication; the same level east is in silty ground. We have just intersected another lode or branch in the cross-cut south of this level, and cut into it about 6*f.*; it produces mastic, blende, and copper; I shall see more of it in a few days, when you shall be advised its size and character.

NORTH DOLOCAHTH.—J. Pauli, Feb. 28: At the engine-shaft the lode is still producing yellow copper ore, and presenting a favourable appearance for improvement. The copper is principally in the north part of the lode, but there is also a vein of ore on the south part, which is of riper quality. On the whole, the appearances of the shaft are very encouraging. In the 70 cross-cut south, west of the engine-shaft, we have just commenced driving west through the cross-course, on the lode recently met with, which has produced some very rich yellow ore, and still continues to do so, but being rather in a dissolved state, in consequence of the cross-course, we cannot yet say whether it is likely to lead to valuable results or not; probably we shall be able to ascertain more about it by the latter part of the week, when we will let you know.

NORTH DEVON SILVER-LEAD.—J. Blamey, March 1: The 10 fathom level north on the caunter, and the 10 fathom level north on the new caunter, are without alteration—kindly lodes, still producing a little ore, but not to value. The winze sinking below the 10 fathom level south, is poor. The 20 south is sparry, spotted with lead ore. The stopes below the 20, on the caunter, is worth about 12*f.* per fathom.

NORTH DOWNS.—R. Pryor, Feb. 27: The ground in the cross-cut at the 85 is looking well, and it looks as if we were going to have something good here shortly. The lode in the 50, on new Brigant lode, is increasing in size, and is presenting good indications. No other alteration.

NORTH MINERA.—Feb. 28: We have fixed the lift, forked the water to the 50, and recommenced the cross-cut; ground composed of grey limestone, carbonate of lime, spar, and mastic. The stopes above the 25 is producing 1 ton of lead ore per fm. Our dressing is stopped on account of the severe weather.

PEDN-AN-DREDA.—William Thomas, James Thomas, Feb. 24: Sump: The lode in the bottom of this shaft is looking kinder than for some time past, producing occasional stones of tin. The 130, east end, is worth 10*f.* per fathom. The 130, west end, is worth about 8*f.* per fathom; the lode is not all carried in driving this end, the part on which the winze is sinking is expected to be further north, and the men are set to cross-cut to reach the north wall. The 130 north we expect we have the capes of Skinner's south lode in this cross-cut, and the end letting out more water than at any other point. The 120 east, on Skinner's south lode, is worth 15*f.* per fathom. In the 120 west the ground is hard for driving, and lodes still unsettled. We have set men to cross-cut north on the cross-course in this level, to intersect Skinner's main lode. In the 120 west the winze is worth 10*f.* per fathom. In the 110 east the lode is worth 9*f.* per fathom; we have about 10*f.* more to sink here to communicate with the 120 east rise. The 100, east end, is worth 8*f.* per fathom. In the 100 east the rise is worth 6*f.* per fathom; there we have set a pair of men to drive east on the branches, which produced the good stones of copper ore in the cross-course. A very large stream of water is issuing from the end. The 110, east end, is worth 6*f.* per fathom. In the 110 west the rise is worth 4*f.* per fathom. In the 90, east end, the lode is improving in appearance, and it appears that more of the lode is standing north, we have set the men to cross-cut through it to reach the north wall. In the 90 east the lode is worth 12*f.* per fathom. In the 90 north cross-cut we have intersected what appears, as far as can be seen in the cross-course, a large lode, producing good stones of copper ore. As soon as this cross-cut has been got sufficiently in advance to open on this lode we purpose proving it. In the 68 east the winze is worth 12*f.* per fathom, the ground here, which was very hard for sinking, has much improved, rendering prospect easy, and it will be important in the ventilation of the 90 east. Cardozo's: The lode in the 25, west end, is worth 9*f.* per fathom.

PENHALLS.—Wm. Higgins, J. Nance, Feb. 24: We have passed through another gossan in the 60 cross-cut, south of engine-shaft, which we think is but a split of the former one; as from its underlie it will unite after 8 fms. above the level, and the last has drained the other all but dry. The prospect of the end speaks of something farther being very near, as the water is spouting out very freely; we believe the lode when cut at this point will be very much better than at 40, from its being on the other side of the cross-course. The lode in the 60, driving west of north cross-cut, is 2*f.* wide, worth 18*f.* per fathom; and in ditto, driving east, 2*f.* wide, worth 7*f.* per fathom.—Flat and Cowling's Lodes: In the 50, driving west, south of shaft, we have not taken down these lodes since our last report, as the men have assisted in hoisting to the 50 cross-cut from north of shaft. In the 50, driving east on these lodes, they are 3*f.* wide, worth 8*f.* per fathom. In the 50, driving west, south of slide, they are 2*f.* wide, worth 6*f.* per fathom.—Pink Lode: In the 40, driving west of south cross-cut, the lode is 3*f.* wide, with a better appearance, now worth 6*f.* per fathom.—Flat-rod Shaft: The lode in the stopes below the 20 east, on north lode, is 15*f.* wide, worth 8*f.* per fathom.

PENTRE LYGAN.—F. Evans, Feb. 27: The appearance of the lode improves as we sink; we have small stones of lead ore, coated with iron. We think to sink 1 or 2 fms. more, when we consider we shall be deep enough to drive out. I have every faith in making an early discovery of lead ore, and I shall be greatly mistaken if we do not, as I never saw appearance, with the little lead we have, so promising. I should state that small stones of ore have been met with the last few days.

POLBREEN.—Feb. 26: In my last I noticed that a cross-cut had been set to drive south in the adit (close to the east and west), and last week we intersected a small lode, with some good work in it; it has a regular underlie north, and looks very kindly, but to make sure if it is all the lode or not, we have set the men to drive a little further before we turn on it; it is very good ground, and is set at 5*f.* 15*f.* per fathom. The lode in the 12 west is poor, but is 18 inches wide, with a strong capel. The 22 west is much the same kind of ground as it has been for some months past—black and hard, but letting out a great deal more water. We have set the men to drive more south, as most of the water is flowing from that direction. I think that the south part of the lode must be close by. We have set the 22 to drive west of the cross-cut, on Tregay's north lode; there is a large stream of water flowing from it, and there were some good stones of tin broken from it when first cross-cut; and now that the west end is in out of the way several fathoms, and the air very good, we thought it best to put a man and boy to drive on the lode. The tribute pitches in the back of the 12, on our new ground, are holding on very well; the one nearest the end is set to four men at 7*f.* 6*f.*, and the rest to four men at 6*f.* in 17. There are four others set in the old ground, at 14*f.* in 17. We have brought the standard of tin from 55*f.* to 50*f.* per ton to the tributaries. I am in hopes we shall have some good tin in the adit end west when the end gets forth over the pitches as the lode continues, as the above pitches show, from the tributes set at, so well, for a good length. I do not expect to find anything very good in the 22 before the killas gets lighter and easier for driving. We sold the first month's tin (about 4 tons) before the regular time, as we thought the price was likely to drop again. We sold it in order to save all we could; there is 24*f.* gone off from the month before, only on 4 tons, and I fear the tin business looks bad still. The tribute pitches now set are the following:—The 22, west of sump, on the south lode, at 5*f.* 10*f.* per fathom. The 22, west of sump, on the north lode, at 6*f.* per fathom; the 12, west of Tregay's, on the south lode, at 6*f.* 10*f.* per fathom; the adit cross-cut south, at 5*f.* 15*f.* per fathom. Number of tributaries, 16 men and 2 boys; on tribute, 9 men and 9 boys; total, 25 men and 11 boys.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Wm. Gifford, Feb. 27: During the past week we have sent up to Watson's shaft, the 20 west, to the tributaries. We shall resume sinking Watson's shaft this week. We hope to commence taking down the lode in the 45, east of Watson's shaft, by the latter part of this week.

RED HEMATITE IRON ORE COMPANY (LONSDALE MINES, LIMITED).—Martin Boundy, Feb. 22: During the last five months we have opened the deep cross-cut adit level about 20*f.*—50 ft. open east, and some 150 ft. under cover. The caunter branch driven upon has shown itself strong, masterly, and regular from the commencement; and at the point of its intersection with No. 2 lode, some 30 or 40 fms. ahead of the present end, it is likely to justify the high opinion formed of the junction, as expressed by Capt. Sparge and other reporters on it. The deep level was started. We have also walled over a portion of the back for deposits of slate, fixed ladder-road 130*f.* laid down 40 ft. of launders, and erected a new wood office and miners' changing house, and are in course of fixing a water blast to ventilate the drift, which, when complete, will enable us to push the bottom level a great distance from the present end, and will doubtless carry us on sufficiently far to lay open valuable deposits of ore, and to determine on ultimate measures for the further economical development of the ground from several points simultaneously.

REEDMOOR.—T. Taylor, March 1: The shaftmen are sinking the engine-shaft very well; we shall add on three boys. We have more water coming out of the cross-cut under the slide, and the ground containing faces of mastic, &c. In the cross-cut we have just intersected a branch about 6*f.* wide, containing copper, but not of sufficient importance to drive on.

ROARING WATER.—Capt. Thomas, Feb. 27: The ground in Grady's engine-shaft is a little easier, and the lode of the most promising appearance, and from the general feature it now presents I have every reason to believe ere long we shall have an important and valuable change; I am confident a little more depth is only required to effect this, every effort is being used to get down as quick as possible. Grady's engine-shaft is sinking in a beautiful channel of ground; I think a better stratum cannot be seen in any mine, it being far superior to anything seen above, and I think the lodes cannot fail of producing when met with in such favourable conditions; the same effort is made to get down in this as in Grady's shaft. The machinery cannot work better, and everything is in regular working order.

ROSECLIFFE AND TOLCARNE.—R. Pryor, J. Phillips, Feb. 25: The ground in Lingo's engine-shaft continues much the same as last reported on, and a quantity of water is still coming out of the north side, which will increase until we meet with the lode a

ROSEWARNE CONSOLS.—John Nancarrow, Richard Knuckey, Feb. 26: The fixing of the lift in the 90, at Ellen's shaft, is completed, and the shaft is now in good order for sinking. The 90 east is through the cross-course in bottom of the end, and we expect to be quite clear of it shortly. The 90 east is worth 3*f.* 10*f.* per fathom. The 70 east, on the north part of the lode, looks very promising, and yields good stones of ore. The slopes in back of the 70 east are worth 7*f.* and 10*f.* per fathom. The 60 east, on the north part of the lode, is worth 5*f.* per fathom. There is no alteration in the 80 west. In the 40 west the lode contains more iron than last week, which we consider a good indication. There are four pitches working at 9*f.*, 9*f.*, 12*f.*, and 13*f.* adit tribute. There is no abatement of the water yet, but we expect it shortly.

SORTRIDGE CONSOLS.—R. Jackson, March 1: Hitchins's engine-shaft is in regular course of sinking below the 110 fm. level. In the 110, west of the engine-shaft, the lode is 2*f.* wide, composed of spar, capel, mastic, and good stones of ore. In Hitchins's rise, in the back of the 110, east of the engine-shaft, the lode is 2*f.* wide, yielding some good saving work. In the 110, east of the engine-shaft, the men are engaged in clearing through the run. In the 50, west of the engine-shaft, on the south part of the main lode, the lode is 1*f.* 1*f.* wide, worth 1*f.* 1*f.* per fathom. There is no change to notice in any other part of the mine.

SOUTH CALLINGTON.—W. Sparge, March 1: The new shaft is now sunk 7*f.* The ground is still favourable for sinking, and very congenial for lead. The lode has not yet been cut through, as the shaft is sinking by the side of the lode, and I would advise sinking the shaft 13*f.* deep; at that point it may be well to cut into the lode, when there is every chance of finding the lode productive.

SOUTH CONDURROW.—J. Vivian and Son, W. Williams, Feb. 24: In the 40 fm. level cross-cut, to communicate between the engine and King's shafts, we are making good progress, although the rock is harder than we anticipated; the distance to the shaft, towards the engine shaft, we appear to be on the point of getting through the hard bar of hornblende through which we have been driving and entering the granite, which is a much more favourable rock for progress.—Middle Lode: In the 55, east of engine-shaft cross-cut, the lode is about 1*f.* wide, and still looking likely to produce tin. In the 30 east the lode is about 1*f.* wide, increasing in size, and producing a little tin. In the 10 east the lode is improved in appearance, and is now 1*f.* wide, yielding over ditto, 14*f.* fm. east of shaft, is set to four men, at 2*f.* 12*f.* per fathom. The stopes over ditto, 6*f.* fm. west of shaft, to four men, at 1*f.* 12*f.* 6*f.* per fathom. These five stopes are yielding on an average 11 cwt. of lead ore per fm. We have contested on the back of the lode at surface about 100 fm. east of engine-shaft, and have opened on a large and very promising lode there—we intend opening on it a little further up the hill. The dressing, &c., with all other things, are going on regularly.

SOUTH CHIVERTON.—Wm. Hancock, Feb. 27: The lode in the 60, east of old sump-shaft, will produce 2 tons of blende per fm., and about 3 cwt. of lead; in the same level west of the lode, the lode is about 3*f.* wide, composed of chlorite and ferruginous gossan; this end is now under Vivian's shaft, and a few days of dry weather will, we think, admit of this shaft being thoroughly drained, which will enable us to sink it rapidly, and communicate it with the 20 and 30. In the 20, west of King's shaft, the lode is about 2*f.* wide, composed of quartz and ferruginous gossan, its appearance being still highly indicative of a rich formation of copper below. In the 20, east of King's shaft, the lode is 3*f.* wide, composed of prian, soft quartz, &c., impregnated with native copper—a fine looking lode. In the deep adit level, west of Vivian's shaft, the lode is of precisely the same character as when last reported on. There is no alteration worthy of remark in the stopes.

SOUTH DARREN.—J. Boundy, Feb. 24: Setting Report: The 70 to drive west, by four men, at 7*f.* per fathom; the lode is 2 feet wide, containing a little lead and copper ore, but not enough to value. The 60 to drive west, by six men, at 8*f.* per fathom; the lode is 2*f.* wide, worth for lead and copper ore 2*f.* per fathom; the lode in this is promising for lead. The 50 to drive west, by six men, at 11*f.* per fathom; the lode in this is of good appearance to be highly productive when deeper developed. In the 43, west of new engine-shaft, on No. 2 lode, the lode is about 3*f.* wide, producing about 15 cwt. of blende per fm. and 4 cwt. of lead; ground stiffer, with a large stream of water flowing from it, which we consider a good indication; the same level east is in silty ground. We have just intersected another lode or branch in the cross-cut south of this level, and cut into it about 6*f.*; it produces mastic, blende, and copper; I shall see more of it in a few days, when you shall be advised its size and character.

SOUTH DOLOCAHTH.—J. Pauli, Feb. 28: At the engine-shaft the lode is still producing yellow copper ore, and presenting a favourable appearance for improvement. The copper is principally in the north part of the lode, but there is also a vein of ore on the south part, which is of riper quality. On the whole, the appearances of the shaft are very encouraging. In the 70 cross-cut south, west of the engine-shaft, we have just commenced driving west through the cross-course, on the lode recently met with, which has produced some very rich yellow ore, and still continues to do so, but being rather in a dissolved state, in consequence of the cross-course, we cannot yet say whether it is likely to lead to valuable results or not; probably we shall be able to ascertain more about it by the latter part of the week, when we will let you know.

SOUTH DEVON SILVER-LEAD.—J. Blamey, March 1: The 10 fathom level north on the caunter, and the 10 fathom level north on the new caunter, are without alteration—kindly lodes, still producing a little ore, but not to value. The winze sinking below the 10 fathom level south, is poor. The 20 south is sparry, spotted with lead ore. The stopes below the 20, on the caunter, is worth about 12*f.* per fathom.

SOUTH DOWNS.—R. Pryor, Feb. 27: The ground in the cross-cut at the 85 is looking well, and it looks as if we were going to have something good here shortly. The lode in the 50, on new Brigant lode, is increasing in size, and is presenting good indications. No other alteration.

SOUTH MINERA.—Feb. 28: We have fixed the lift, forked the water to the 50, and recommenced the cross-cut; ground composed of grey limestone, carbonate of lime, spar, and mastic. The stopes above the 25 is producing 1 ton of lead ore per fm. Our dressing is stopped on account of the severe weather.

PEDN-AN-DREDA.—William Thomas, James Thomas, Feb. 24: Sump: The lode in the bottom of this shaft is looking kinder than for some time past, producing occasional stones of tin. The 130, east end, is worth 10*f.* per fathom. The 130, west end, is worth about 8*f.* per fathom; the lode is not all carried in driving this end, the part on which the winze is sinking is expected to be further north, and the men are set to cross-cut to reach the north wall. The 130 north we expect we have the capes of Skinner's south lode in this cross-cut, and the end letting out more water than at any other point. The 120 east, on Skinner's south lode, is worth 15*f.* per fathom. In the 120 west the ground is hard for driving, and lodes still unsettled. We have set men to cross-cut north on the cross-course in this level, to intersect Skinner's main lode. In the 120 west the winze is worth 10*f.* per fathom. In the 110 east the lode is worth 9*f.* per fathom; we have about 10*f.* more to sink here to communicate with the 120 east rise. The 100, east end, is worth 8*f.* per fathom. In the 100 east the rise is worth 6*f.* per fathom; there we have set a pair of men to drive east on the branches, which produced the good stones of copper ore in the cross-course. A very large stream of water is issuing from the end. The 110, east end, is worth 6*f.* per fathom. In the 90 east the rise is worth 4*f.* per fathom. In the 90, east end, the lode is improving in appearance, and it appears that more of the lode is standing north, we have set the men to cross-cut through it to reach the north wall. In the 90 east the lode is worth 12*f.* per fathom. In the 90 north cross-cut we have intersected what appears, as far as can be seen in the cross-course, a large lode, producing good stones of copper ore. As soon as this cross-cut has been got sufficiently in advance to open on this lode we purpose proving it. In the 68 east the winze is worth 12*f.* per fathom, the ground here, which was very hard for sinking, has much improved, rendering prospect easy, and it will be important in the ventilation of the 90 east. Cardozo's: The lode in the 25, west end, is worth 9*f.* per fm.

SOUTH HERDOSFOOT.—W. Goldsworthy, Feb. 23: The ground in the 70 south is getting easier for driving, and the branch just the same as last reported. In the north and the south part, which is of riper quality. On the whole, the appearances of the shaft are very encouraging. In the 70 cross-cut south, west of the engine-shaft, we have just commenced driving west through the cross-course, on the lode recently met with, which has produced some very rich yellow ore, and still continues to do so, but being rather in a dissolved state, in consequence of the cross-course, we cannot yet say whether it is likely to lead to valuable results or not; probably we shall be able to ascertain more about it by the latter part of the week, when we will let you know.

SOUTH LOVELL.—W. Chappell, March 1: The lode in the 12 west has improved: now about 1*f.* wide, and the lode at this point is 2*f.* wide, containing a good mixture of lead and copper ore; present value 12*f.* per fm., and has a promising appearance.

SOUTH TREVENNA.—T. Jennings, March 1: No. 1 lode, sinking under the 10 fm. level, west of sump-shaft, is improving daily; we are making good progress in sinking. The 40 to drive west, by four men, at 8*f.* per fathom; the lode is 2*f.* wide, worth for lead and copper ore 16*f.* per fm. The ground is favourable in the winze below this level, and the men making fair progress in sinking. The 40 to drive west, by four men, at 8*f.* per fathom; the lode is 2*f.* wide, worth for lead and copper ore 16*f.* per fm. The 30 to drive west, by four men, at 11*f.* per fathom; the lode is 2*f.* wide, worth for lead and copper ore 22*f.* per fm. The 30 to drive west, by four men, at 11*f.* per fathom; the lode is 2*f.* wide, worth for lead and copper ore 22*f.* per fm. with a good appearance for improvement. To stop the back over the

WHEAL SPARNON.—E. Chegwin, Feb. 24: Sump: The sumpmen have been engaged cutting down Jardine's engine-shaft and changing pitwork. The lode in Jardine's engine-shaft produces stones of yellow copper ore. The water has been in at the bottom levels all the week in consequence of a breakage of our lift; the door of it broke, and we were obliged to send to the foundry to get one cast. The water had been in Beltry's shaft, in consequence of the engine being idle.

WHEAL TRELAWNY.—Wm. Johns, T. Grenfell, J. Pryor, Feb. 26: The water is again in fork in Smith's engine-shaft to the 196, and this enabled us to drive both north and south of shaft; the south end is showing a better appearance, opening out tributary ground. In the 182, north of Chippendale's shaft, the lode is looking pretty well, worth 15/- per fathom. The 78 is also opening out profitable ore ground. In the 182 south of Smith's, and the 162 fathom level north of Trelawny, we are driving by the side of the lode; by this mode of working we can open out ground with greater dispatch, and cut into the lode when thought desirable. Our tribute pitches are much the same as when last reported on.

WHEAL UNION.—T. Glanville, Feb. 28: South Lode: In the 40, driving east of old engine-shaft, the lode will produce 1½ ton of copper ore per fm. In the 40 west the lode is producing 1 ton of ore per fm. In the 50 the lode is producing stones of ore, but not to value. —New Lode: In the 60, driving east of cross-cut, the lode is worth 20/- per fathom for tin. In the 60 west the lode is not looking so well as reported on last week, now worth about 5/- per fm.

WHEAL UNION.—J. Daw, S. Coade, M. Rogers, Feb. 24: The lode in the engine-shaft has greatly improved; the stuff drawn from it this week is of much better quality, and should it continue (which there is every appearance it will) it is worth now, at the present price of tin, 35/- per fm. for the length of shaft, 12 ft.; sinking by six men and three boys, at 42/- per fm. The 120, east of engine-shaft, has also improved, worth 12/- per fathom; driving by four men, at 5/- per fm. The 110, east of engine-shaft, is worth 12/- per fm.; driving by four men, at 15/- per fm. The 120, west of incline shaft, is worth 5/- per fathom; driving by four men, at 8/- per fm. We have 14 men stopping in back of the 120, east and west of engine-shaft, at 2/- per 100 sacks, breaking tin-stuff of 3 cwt. of black tin per 100 sacks. We have suspended several stopees and pitches of low quality tin-stuff, which will barely pay for working at present price of black tin, and discharged 40 men underground; by doing this we shall make a considerable reduction in the working cost of the mine.

MINING NOTABILIA.

[EXTRACTS FROM OUR CORRESPONDENCE.]

GREAT WHEAL VOR UNITED MINES.—There has been no small stir of excitement at Wheal Metal this last week, in consequence of the discovery made some ten days since being now confirmed, of what appears to be altogether a new lode. It was first discovered in sinking the winze below the 147, west of Metal shaft, and which induced a most vigorous driving of the 152 cross-cut south (a cross-cut of discovery), when, to the satisfaction of the agent and men, the lode was cut in the 152 south cross-cut—a good lode, about 1½ ft. wide. Should this lode continue as at present it will put the mine in a high position for opening out a very extensive and valuable piece of ground in these two levels—the 147 and 152. The other parts of the mine look well.

CARN BREA.—At Highbridge lode, in the 187 west, near the western boundary, driving east, a course of copper ore has been cut worth 100/- per fathom; this is one of the most important discoveries in Illogan for years. It is reported that there are several improvements for tin and copper in the Barncose part of the sett.

NEW TRELAWNY (Liskeard).—This promising young mine appears to be opening out well, and most satisfactory to the shareholders; the different points of operation have been attended with the most favourable results that could be anticipated, and it is likely to become a rich and lasting mine. The lode in the engine-shaft fully maintains its size, character, and rich appearance, with every prospect of yielding large returns of ore on further development. The lode in the adit level is also improving and enlarging as it is being driven on. Another very important point is shortly to come off in the cross-cut by the intersection of the eastern silver-lead lode, which is supposed to be only 3 fms. from the present end, and from the congenital strata being driven through, there can be but little doubt of its productiveness when intersected, and the shareholders feel most sanguine as to the results.

AT SOUTH TREVENNA a great improvement has taken place, causing a great stir in that district about mine sets which join the Trevenna, or on the same lodes. They have intersected the great copper lode in the south part of the sett that made so large returns in the old Wheal Mary Consols some years ago. Wheal Mary Consols joins South Trevenna, and it is expected that quick and large returns will soon be made from the same lode in South Trevenna.

AT NORTH DOLOCAHTH a good copper lode has been cut by driving a cross-cut south, in the 60 fathom level; this is very important, and it is the agents' opinion that something good may be expected.

AT HENDRA CONSOLS SILVER-LEAD MINE, in the parish of Menheniot, operations have been commenced by the driving of an adit level on the course of the lode, which is about 4 ft. wide, and interspersed throughout with silver-lead, and the lode improving as they drive into the hill. On looking at the position of this sett, being immediately adjoining Trelawny and Mary Ann Mines, and parallel lodes with it, it is a concern of great promise, being at present worked by a few private individuals, together with the lords of the mine, who have taken one-quarter part as an investment, and the other holders being connected with the mines in the locality, who are determined to give it a vigorous prosecution, so sanguine are they of its being a productive undertaking.

SOUTH DARREN.—This mine continues to open out quite equal to anticipations. It is expected that a dividend will be paid this month, and that they will be kept up quarterly, and increase in amount. Shares have advanced to 3/-, but are still ridiculously low.

PROSPER UNITED.—At the general meeting the accounts showed the loss for six months to have been only 740/. The call was required to pay off the balance of the new engine and the previous debit balance. But for the very depressed prices of tin and copper these mines would be making considerable profits.

CHONTALES GOLD COMPANY.—We stated last week that the first remittance of gold received by this company had realised 2024/. It must be borne in mind that this was obtained in 45 days' working, with a very few men, and by the rough mode of working hitherto carried on by the natives. When the machinery now at the mines is at work, and the miners and others on their way there, and to sail in next steamer, have arrived, the returns will be very large.

THE range of lodes in the immediate CALSTOCK DISTRICT are showing signs of becoming very productive of copperore. There is a fine lode at Ganton, which may be the same lode that is beginning to turn out so much ore at Otel Tor, but, probably, is a parallel one; however, in the same direction westwards either of these lodes have been cut from the Danescombe adit under very favourable circumstances. At Calstock Consols, Capt. Collom has been for some time driving on a large lode in that mine, capable of turning out 4 tons of good yellow ore, embedded in fluor-spar, in a deep adit: 50 fms. below the hill.

CLOWANCE WOOD.—Captain James Pope has this week inspected this mine, which he recommends as one of the best pieces of unexplored mining property in Cornwall. Beautiful stones of copper ore are being raised from the lodes at the 20; and this mine is now being looked after by the Cornish speculators. The shares, which were some time since selling at 40/- each, cannot now be bought at all, every shareholder being convinced of the value of the property.

CHONTALES.—Important and reliable intelligence has been received, under date Feb. 10, that there were then 18 feet of water on the bar in the harbour of Greytown, or San Juan de Norte. With this draught of water there is every reason to suppose that the whole of the machinery sent out from this country has been landed at Greytown, and will soon be in course of erection at the mines.

FRONTINO AND BOLIVIA.—The directors have received no remittance of gold by the present mail. It is expected that Capt. Tregoning, and the miners who accompanied him, will arrive at the Bolivia Mine in the course of next week. Capt. Edwards and a reduction officer, with a staff of six miners, left Southampton for the Frontino Mines on the 2d inst.

THE GREAT LAXEY MINING COMPANY.—The accounts of this company to be presented at the general meeting, to be held on the 14th inst., have been distributed among the shareholders. They show a total balance of assets over liabilities of 29,713. 8s. 10d. The directors propose to pay a dividend of 10s. per share for the three months, or at the rate of 50 per cent. per annum on the paid-up capital of the company, and which will absorb 7500/-, leaving a balance of 22,131. 8s. 10d. At the forthcoming meeting the shareholders will be called upon to decide what shall be done with this balance, a portion of which some of them would wish to see either divided or invested in securities, but as a very large portion of the assets consist of, as in the present instance, ore bills, 19,014/-, and ore on hand valued at 3534/-, the directors would be only using a wise discretion in retaining this balance, large as it is, intact, adding so much as it does to the stability of the company. The value of the ore raised during the year 1865 was 63,938. 18s. 1d., against 54,167. 5s. in 1864. These returns will, however, shortly be very considerably increased.

WEATHER PREDICTIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MINING JOURNAL.

SIR.—The weather for the past month I think the readers of the Journal must admit has been in accordance with my prognostications. The time is now approaching for the "usual crops of predictions as to the character of the present year." Some of the savans promised us a severe winter, but the weather has only been severe on paper.

True, there has been a great perturbation in the order of our climate; the seasons for the two past years have been, so to speak, "out of joint," and, without doubt, this state of things has brought about the cattle plague and other diseases which have afflicted both man and beast. No doubt the filthy state of our rivers have greatly added to the calamities. But apparently this derangement in the order of our climate is now at an end. From the phenomena now before me, it is evident we have a "bad, wet year" before us. Should anything arise to alter my opinion, I shall make it known in a future letter, but the aspect of the order of the weather is dreary in the extreme, and, so far as fine or growing weather is concerned, it is almost a blank. Well, a wet year is one of Nature's laws of self-defence. During these periodic rainy cold years "the land rests from its excessive labours." All this I have explained in my "Climate of England."

With reference to the weather for the present month, it will be of a very unsettled character: in the absence of frost and snow we shall have wind and rain, apparently more of the latter than the former. From the 1st to the 13th the weather will be very unsettled—frosts, snow, gales, winds, and rain; 15th to 18th somewhat similar weather; 21st, 24th, 26th, and 31st winds and rain, with frosts at intervals. From the 2d to 5th of April unsettled. Therefore, I should advise our farmers to make the best use of every fine interval in the weather to get in their seeds.

26, Throgmorton-street, March 1.

G. SHEPHERD, C.E.,
Author of the "Climate of England."

The Mining Market; Prices of Metals, Ores, &c.

METAL MARKET—LONDON, MARCH 2, 1866

COFFER.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Per Ton.
Best selected...p. ton	99	0	—
Tough cake & tile	96	0	—
Burns Burns	100	0	—
Copper wire	129	16	—
Ditto tubes	0	13	—
Sheathing & bolts p. ton	101	0	—
Bottoms	106	0	—
Old (Exchange)...	87	0	—
IRON.	Per Ton.		
Bars Welsh, in London	7	10	0
Ditto, to arrive	7	10	0
Nail rods	8	15	0
Stafford, in London	9	0	—
Bars ditto	9	0	—
Hoops ditto	9	15	0
Sheets, single	10	10	—
Pig No. 1, in Wales	4	5	—
Refined metal, ditto...	4	0	—
Bars, common, ditto...	7	0	—
Do., merch., Tyne Tees	7	10	—
Ditto, f.o.b. Tyne or Tees	2	9	—
Ditto sheet	31	10	—
Ditro red lead	23	10	—
Ditto white	37	0	—
Ditto patent shot	33	15	—
IRON.	Per Ton.		
English Pig, common...	20	15	—
Ditto, ordinary soft...	21	0	—
Ditto (WB)	22	10	—
Ditro sheet	31	10	—
Ditro red lead	23	10	—
Ditro white	37	0	—
Ditto patent shot	33	15	—
LEAD.	Per Ton.		
English Pig, common...	20	15	—
Ditto, ordinary soft...	21	0	—
Ditto (WB)	22	10	—
Ditro sheet	31	10	—
Ditro red lead	23	10	—
Ditro white	37	0	—
Ditro patent shot	33	15	—
LEAD.	Per Ton.		
English Pig, common...	20	15	—
Ditto, ordinary soft...	21	0	—
Ditto (WB)	22	10	—
Ditro sheet	31	10	—
Ditro red lead	23	10	—
Ditro white	37	0	—
Ditro patent shot	33	15	—
LEAD.	Per Ton.		
English Pig, common...	20	15	—
Ditto, ordinary soft...	21	0	—
Ditto (WB)	22	10	—
Ditro sheet	31	10	—
Ditro red lead	23	10	—
Ditro white	37	0	—
Ditro patent shot	33	15	—
LEAD.	Per Ton.		
English Pig, common...	20	15	—
Ditto, ordinary soft...	21	0	—
Ditto (WB)	22	10	—
Ditro sheet	31	10	—
Ditro red lead	23	10	—
Ditro white	37	0	—
Ditro patent shot	33	15	—
LEAD.	Per Ton.		
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Ditto, ordinary soft...	21	0	—
Ditto (WB)	22	10	—
Ditro sheet	31	10	—
Ditro red lead	23	10	—
Ditro white	37	0	—
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LEAD.	Per Ton.		
English Pig, common...	20	15	—
Ditto, ordinary soft...	21	0	—
Ditto (WB)	22	10	—
Ditro sheet	31	10	—
Ditro red lead	23	10	—
Ditro white	37	0	—
Ditro patent shot	33	15	—
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Ditto, ordinary soft...	21	0	—
Ditto (WB)	22	10	—
Ditro sheet	31	10	—
Ditro red lead	23	10	—
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Ditto (WB)	22	10	—
Ditro sheet	31	10	—
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LEAD.	Per Ton.		
English Pig, common...	20	15	—
Ditto, ordinary soft...	21	0	—
Ditto (WB)	22	10	—
Ditro sheet	31	10	—
Ditro red lead	23	10	—
Ditro white	37	0	—
Ditro patent shot	33	15	—
LEAD.	Per Ton.		
English Pig, common...	20	15	—
Ditto, ordinary soft...	21	0	—
Ditto (WB)	22	10	—
Ditro sheet	31		

FOUNDRY, HAYLE, SEPT. 29, 1865.—SIR: We beg to inform you that, in consequence of our INCREASING BUSINESS in LONDON, we have purchased the HAYLE FOUNDRY WHARF (formerly Crown Wharf), NINE ELMS, where we shall carry on in all their branches the businesses of FOUNDERS and ENGINEERS.

Having by this arrangement provided greater facilities for the dispatch of work confined to us by our friends in London, and being also enabled to extend our business, we are, in addition to the usual Engineering work hitherto undertaken by us, prepared to SUPPLY MINING MACHINERY from this wharf at the shortest notice, where also our resident engineer will be in attendance to give information in designing general plans and details of the most improved machinery for mining and other purposes.

Our offices hitherto at Clarence Chambers, 12, Haymarket, will from this date be transferred to the Hayle Foundry Wharf, Nine Elms, S., where all communications intended for our London branch should be addressed.

We are, Sir, your obedient servants,

HARVEY AND CO.

MESSRS. HARVEY AND CO., HAYLE (and until recently of Clarence Chambers, London), desire to say THEY ARE NOT CONNECTED IN ANY WAY with Messrs. Harvey and Co., Clarence Chambers, Manchester, who issue circulars and advertise mine shares.

Foundry, Hayle, and Nine Elms, London, Feb. 27, 1866.

PORTABLE ENGINES.—CLAYTON, SHUTTLEWORTH, and Co. beg to announce that they have made a CONSIDERABLE REDUCTION in the PRICE of their PORTABLE STEAM-ENGINES.

Revised catalogues will be sent on application to CLAYTON, SHUTTLEWORTH, and Co., Lincoln; or 78, Lombard-street, London.

GALLOWAY'S PATENT CONE TUBES FOR STEAM BOILERS.—The introduction of these vertical taper tubes into the ordinary fixed boilers PROMOTES the NECESSARY CIRCULATION OF WATER, and thus INCREASES THEIR STRENGTH and DURABILITY.

Their adoption not only adds to the steam-producing power of the flues, but renders the practice of hooping with angle or tee iron rings quite unnecessary.

The tubes have now been in use upwards of 14 years, and above 22,000 are in work in various parts of the country, with the best results.

They can be easily fixed in existing boilers (owing to their taper form) by any boiler maker, but can only be obtained from the patentees, W. and J. GALLOWAY and Sons, Engineers and Boiler Makers, Manchester.

BLASTING.

AS NOW ADAPTED BY LENK'S PROCESS
GUN COTTONTON IS THE CHEAPEST AND SAFEST EXPLOSIVE, AND FREE FROM SMOKE. Prices and directions for use on application to the Manufacturers, THOMAS PRENTICE AND CO., 173, FENCHURCH STREET, LONDON, E.C. MANUFACTORY, STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.

SAFETY FUSE.—MESSRS. WILLIAM BRUNTON AND CO., PENHALICK, POOL, near CAMBORNE, CORNWALL, and BEYMBY, near WREXHAM, MANUFACTURERS OF FUSE, of every size and length, as exhibited in the Great Exhibition of 1851, and supplied to the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich, the Arctic Expedition, and every part of the globe.

For the convenience of their customers and others in the North, W. BRUNTON and Co. have recently erected a branch manufactory at Brymbo, near Wrexham, where, as at Cornwall, they are at all times PREPARED to EXECUTE UNLIMITED ORDERS for SUPPLYING FUSE upon warrant that it will prove equal to, if not better than, any to be procured elsewhere.

First Class Silver Medal, Royal Polytechnic Society, Falmouth, 1864.

CREASE'S PNEUMATIC TUNNELLING ENGINE. for SUPERSEDING THE SLOW and EXPENSIVE USE of MANUAL LABOUR in SINKING SHAFTS, DRIVING LEVELS, TUNNELLING, &c., is guaranteed to drive through any rock of average hardness at a minimum rate of 1 fm. per diem, and to sink shafts at the rate of 2 fm. in three days.

Mr. CREASE will undertake contracts for sinking shafts, driving levels, &c., at an enormous reduction of time and great saving in cost.

Applications to be addressed (for the present) to the patentee, Mr. E. S. CREASE, Tavistock Devon.

BASTIER'S PATENT CHAIN PUMP, APPARATUS FOR RAISING WATER ECONOMICALLY, ESPECIALLY APPLICABLE TO ALL KINDS OF MINES, DRAINS, AGE, WELLS, MARINE, FIRE, &c.

J. U. BASTIER begs to call the attention of proprietors of mines, engineers, architects, farmers, and the public in general, to his new pump, the cheapest and most efficient ever introduced to public notice. The principle of this new pump is simple and effective, and its action is so arranged that accidental breakage is impossible. It occupies less space than any other kind of pump in use, does not interfere with the working of the shafts, and unites lightness with a degree of durability almost imperishable. By means of this hydraulic machine water can be raised economically from wells of any depth; it can be worked either by steam-engine or any other motive power, by quick or slow motion. The following statement presents some of the results obtained by this hydraulic machine as daily demonstrated by use:—

1.—It utilises from 90 to 92 per cent. of the motive power.

2.—Its price and expense of installation is 75 per cent. less than the usual pump employed for mining purposes.

3.—It occupies a very small space.

4.—It raises water from any depth with the same facility and economy.

5.—It raises with the water, and without the slightest injury to the apparatus, sand, mud, wood, stone, and every object of a smaller diameter than its tube.

6.—It is easily removed, and requires no cleaning or attention.

BASTIER'S PATENT CHAIN-PUMP may be seen daily in operation at Messrs. SAMUEL BERGER and Co.'s Patent Rice Starch Works, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E. Cards of admission to be had on application to the inventor and patentee, Mr. J. U. BASTIER, C.E.; or to Messrs. J. JACKSON and Co., Engineers, 17, Gracechurch-street, London.

J. U. BASTIER and Messrs. JACKSON and Co. will CONTRACT to ERECT the PATENT PUMP, and will GUARANTEE IT FOR ONE YEAR, or will grant license to manufacturers, mining proprietors, and others, for the use of this invention.

OFFICES, 17, GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON.

Now ready, price 5s.

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Many enquiries have been made during the past few months for the form of Tack-Note published at the MINING JOURNAL Office, to which the answer "out of print" and "reprinting" has been returned. The form may now be had upon application to the bookseller to whom orders have been given, or will be forwarded direct from our office on receipt of a remittance of 5s. by Post-office order.

London: Published at the MINING JOURNAL office, 26, Fleet-street, E.C.

THE PRACTICAL MECHANICS' JOURNAL for March (Part 12, Third Series), price 1s., with large plate engraving of Continuous Action Paper Bag Machine, and thirty wood engravings. Original Articles on Some Points of Practice in Iron Founding; and Subways under Street Pavements; Mr. Alexander Ramsay's Chamber Closet; Ferrigault's Double Fan; Engineering Education; Recent Patents: Permanent Way, Thomas Hunt; Wheels, J. H. Johnson; Ploughs, John Eddy; Sinking Walls, J. Henry Johnson. Reviews of Books, Mechanics' Library, Correspondence, Scientific Societies, Marine Memoranda, Monthly Notes, List of Patents, &c.

London: Longmans, Paternoster-row; Editors' Offices (Offices for Patents), 47, Lincoln's Inn-fields.

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The "Iron Trade Circular" is eminently the business journal of the mining districts and the manufacturers and wholesale dealers in iron. Its information is authentic, unbiased, and complete, comprising not only the business news of the South and North Staffordshire district, but generally of the entire mining and manufacturing districts of the United Kingdom. It is now proposed to add a collection of special and general information in the interests of the Hardware Trades of Birmingham, Sheffield, and London, to be comprised in a department of the "Iron Trade Circular," under the head of "The Hardware Weekly Messenger." Subscription:—

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THE COUNTY PAPER.—County advertisements inserted by Authority of the Court of Quarter Sessions.

THE FLINT COUNTY CHRONICLE: A Mining, Agricultural, and General Advertiser for Mold, Flint, Rhiw, Holywell, Northop, Buckley, Hawarden, Saltney, and neighbourhood. The great success which has attended the publication of the "County Chronicle" justifies the proprietors in drawing the attention of advertisers to the special advantages it offers as an advertising medium. For the announcements of auctioneers, public companies, and tradesmen, it is the best in the county, having attained a circulation throughout Flintshire treble that of all the other so-called local papers combined. As a newspaper it contains full and impartial reports of all local events, and devotes particular attention to the mining and oil trade interests of the district—special articles appearing from week to week. Agriculture is not neglected, the latest market reports being a distinctive feature of the paper, together with other matters of interest to the agriculturist. All communications should be addressed to the Editor, Bromfield Villa, Maesdyderwen, Mold.

THE STOCKTON AND HARTLEPOOL MERCURY AND MIDDLESBOROUGH NEWS (published at Hartlepool) is eminently the organ of the Coal, Iron, and Iron Ship-building Trades in the extensive Mining and Maritime District of South Durham and Cleveland, with which it has been closely identified since its origin. The "Mercury" was for years the only newspaper published in South Durham and Cleveland, and is yet the only one published more than once a week. Advertisements to be forwarded to the publisher, Mr. JOHN H. BELL, Southgate, Hartlepool.

THE MINING JOURNAL.



THE IMPERIAL WELSH SLATE COMPANY (LIMITED).

Capital £35,000, in 7000 shares of £5 each. 10s. to be paid on application, and £1 on allotment. No further call to exceed 10s. per share, not to be made at intervals of less than three months. Incorporated under the Companies Act, 1862, whereby the liability of shareholders is limited to the amount of their shares.

DIRECTORS.

RALPH COULTHARD, Esq., Gateshead-on-Tyne.

JOHN DOWNES, Esq., No. 85, Upper Thames-street, colonial merchant.

THOMAS KEY, Esq., Grove Hill House, Camberwell, Director of the Lily and Rose-bush State Quarries.

EDWARD COOKE, Esq., Crown-court, Threadneedle-street, and Hereford-road, Bayswater, London.

JOHN DAVIES, Esq., Blaenmarials House, Narberth, Pembrokeshire, Director of the St. Bride's Quarries.

H. LEDGARD, Esq., Grove Hill Cottage, New Hampton, Middlesex, Managing Director.

BANKERS.—The Alliance Bank, Lothbury.

SOLICITORS.—Messrs. Bennett and Stark, 4, Furnival's Inn, London.

BROKERS.—J. S. Challoner, Esq., 56, Dean-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Aubrey Brown, Esq., Stock Exchange, London.

SECRETARY (pro tem.)—Mr. Francis Wilson.

OFFICES.—No. 1, CROWN COURT, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON.

The reports from Mr. James Charles, Manager of the West Gilfach and Lily Quarries; Mr. Thomas Nicholas, Manager of the Danderdown Quarries; and Mr. William Pierce, Manager of the St. Bride's Quarries, may be seen at the offices; and prospectuses and forms of application for shares may be had of the Brokers of the company; the Secretary (pro tem.); and of Mr. JAMES CROFTS, shareholder, No. 1, Finch-lane, Cornhill, from whom all information on the merits of the undertaking can be obtained, and samples of the slate may be inspected at his office, as above.

PATENT FLEXIBLE TUBING, AND BRATTICE CLOTH FOR MINES,

MANUFACTURED BY ELLIS LEVER,

PATENTEE, WEST GORTON WORKS, MANCHESTER.

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ENGINEERS, IRON AND BRASS FOUNDRERS, MANUFACTURERS OF STEAM ENGINES, BOILERS, AND MACHINERY OF ALL KINDS, CHAINS, SHOVELS, EDGE TOOLS, AND EVERY DESCRIPTION OF CAST AND HAMMERED IRON FOR MINING, MANUFACTURING, RAILWAY, OR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

Machinery sent to all parts of the world.

Foreign mining companies supplied on liberal terms.

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MANUFACTURERS OF RAILWAY CARRIAGES AND WAGONS, and EVERY DESCRIPTION OF IRON WORK.

Passenger carriages and wagons built, either for cash or for payment over a period of years.

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MANUFACTURERS OF RAILWAY CARRIAGES, WAGONS, and RAILWAY IRONWORK of every description.

RAILWAY CARRIAGES and WAGONS built for CASH, or upon DEFERRED PAYMENTS extending over a period of from THREE to TEN YEARS.

A large number of COAL, IRONSTONE, BALLAST, and other WAGONS to be LET ON HIRE.

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JAMES DEWHIRST, Sec.

THE BEVERLEY IRON AND WAGON COMPANY (LIMITED).

MANUFACTURERS of RAILWAY CARRIAGES and WAGONS, WROUGHT and CAST IRON CARRIAGE and WAGON WHEELS, AXLES, HAMMERED USES, and HEAVY SMITHS' WORK for ENGINEERS, &c. BRASS and IRON FOUNDRERS. MAKERS of PORTABLE FARM RAILWAYS, TURNTABLES, CROSSINGS, SWITCHES, &c. AGRICULTURAL MACHINISTS. MANUFACTURERS of FIELD, ROAD, and BARN IMPLEMENTS, PATENT LORRY, CART, and CARRIAGE WHEELS, with WOOD or IRON NAVES. REAPING MACHINES, CLOUD CRUSHERS, CORN MILLS, &c. SAW MILL PROPRIETORS. GENERAL TIMBER CONVERTERS for HOME and FOREIGN RAILWAYS, STATIONS, BARRACKS, EXHIBITIONS, &c. IRONWORKS, BEVERLEY, YORKSHIRE.

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MANUFACTURE RAILWAY WAGONS of EVERY DESCRIPTION, for HIRE and SALE, by immediate or deferred payments. They have also wagons for hire capable of carrying 6, 8, and 10 tons, part of which are constructed specially for shipping purposes. Wagons in working order maintained by contract.

EDMUND FOWLER, Sec.

WAGON WORKS—SMETHWICK, BIRMINGHAM.

** L. Loans received on Debenture; particulars on application.

London Agent—Mr. E. B. SAVILE, 67, Victoria-street, Westminster, S.W.

COAL CUTTING MACHINERY.

The WEST ARDSLEY COMPANY having, by recently patented improvements, perfected their coal cutting machinery, worked by compressed air, are NOW READY to MAKE CONTRACTS for the CONSTRUCTION and USE of their MACHINES. The results of twelve months' experience in the working of these machines, by the West Ardsley Company, have proved most satisfactory, their use being found to CHEAPEN the COST and IMPROVE the average SIZE of the COAL, to LIGHTEN the LABOUR, and also to MODIFY the SANITARY CONDITION of the MINE. All communications to be made to Messrs. FIRTH, DUNSTHORPE, and BOWER, No. 8, Britannia-street, Leeds.

NOTICE.—The WEST ARDSLEY COMPANY, having reason

to believe that their patents are being infringed upon, hereby give notice that they will TAKE LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST ALL PARTIES who may

MAKE FOR SALE, or USE ANY MACHINERY in the construction of which any

such INFRINGEMENT is MADE.

CHARLES DAVEY AND CO.

SAFETY FUSE MANUFACTURERS,

ST. HELEN'S JUNCTION, LANCASHIRE.

ESTABLISHED 1770.

Manufacturers of every description of IMPROVED PATENT FLAT and ROUND WIRE ROPES,

From the very best quality of charcoal iron and steel wire.

THE MINING SHARE LIST

BRITISH DIVIDEND MINES.

Shares.	Mines.	Paid.	Last Pr.	Business.	Total divs.	Per Share.	Last paid	
200 Rotallack (tin, copper), St. Just.	91 5 0..	—	..	..	483 15 0..	3 0 0—Aug. 1865	
10000 British State Company [L.]	7 0 0..	—	..	..	9 per cent.	..	Aug. 1865
12000 Bronfod (lead), Cardigan [L. £15.]	12 0 0..	—	..	..	7 15 0..	0 10 0—Jan.	1866
12000 Bryn Gwyn (lead), Mold, [L.]	9 0 0..	—	..	..	3 3 6..	0 13 6—Aug. 1865	
910 Cargoll (silver-lead), Newlyn.	15 8 7..	32	..	..	13 10 0..	1 0 0—Feb.	1866
2280 Clifford Amalgamated (cop.), Gwen. [L.]	30 0 0..	16 10 1/2	..	..	85 6 0..	0 10 0—June	1866
867 Cwm Erin (lead) Cardiganshire [L.]	7 10 0..	—	..	..	18 18 0..	1 0 0—Jan.	1866
128 Cwmwint (lead), Cardiganshire [L.]	60 0 0..	—	..	..	342 10 0..	5 0 0—Dec.	1865
280 Devant Mines (sil.-lead), Durham [L.]	300 0..	—	..	..	159 10 0..	7 10 0—June	1865
1224 Devon Gt. Con. (cop.), Camborne [S.E.]	1 0 0..	600	..	..	810 10 0..	3 0 0—Feb.	1866
258 Dolcoath (copper,tin), Camborne [L.]	17 6..	—	..	..	8 10 0..	0 5 0—Jan.	1866
6000 East Carn Brea (copper), Redruth.	3 18 0..	4 1/2	..	..	0 5 0..	0 5 0—June	1865
6144 East Cardon (copper), St. Cleer [S.E.]	2 14 6..	8	..	..	10 10 0..	0 5 0—Jan.	1866
300 East Darren (lead), Cardiganshire [L.]	32 0..	—	..	..	109 10 0..	2 0 0—Jan.	1866
5000 East Rosewarne (cop., tin), Gwinnar.	18 15 0..	—	..	..	10 10 0..	0 5 0—Jan.	1866
1906 East Wheal Lovell (tin), Wendron.	5 9 0..	11	15 13 0..	0 10 0..	1 6—Jan.	1866
2800 Foxdale (lead) Isle of Man [L.]	25 0 0..	—	..	..	2 0 0..	0 10 0—Dec.	1865
5000 Frank Mills (lead), Christow.	3 18 6..	—	..	..	67 10 0..	0 10 0—Dec.	1865
15000 Great Laxey (lead), Isle of Man [L.]	4 0 0..	21	..	..	3 5 6..	0 5 0—Feb.	1866
5908 Great Wh. Vor. (tin, cop.), Helston [S.E.]	40 0..	31	..	..	19 18 11..	0 16 1—July	1865
1024 Herdfoot (d.), near Liskeard [S.E.]	5 0 0..	39	..	..	8 17 0..	1 0 0—Dec.	1865
6000 Hington Down (copper), [S.E.]	5 10 0..	39	..	..	36 0 0..	1 15 0—Feb.	1866
400 Lisharrow (lead), Cardiganshire, Wales [L.]	5 10 6..	4 1/2	..	..	0 5 0..	0 5 0—Dec.	1865
9000 Marke Valley (copper), Camborne.	18 15 0..	—	..	..	464 0 0..	3 0 0—Jan.	1866
3000 Miners Boundary (lead), Wrexham [L.]	4 10 6..	4 1/2	..	..	3 5 0..	0 2 6—Jan.	1866
1800 Miners Mining Co. [L.]	1 0 0..	—	..	..	10 10 0..	0 2 0—Nov.	1865
20000 Mining Co. of Ireland (cop., lead, coal)	25 0 0..	280	..	..	193 3 0..	5 10 0—Feb.	1865
6000 New Birch Tor and Tiffey Cons. (tin)	1 6 8..	—	..	..	18 11 0..	0 16 1—July	1865
302 Parys Mine (copper), Anglesey [L.]	50 0 0..	—	..	..	13 0 0..	2 0 0—Oct.	1865
1123 Providence (tin), Lelant [S.E.]	10 6 7..	32 1/2	..	..	157 0 0..	5 0 0—Jan.	1866
412 South Cardon (cop.), St. Cleer [S.E.]	1 8 0..	—	..	..	80 7 6..	1 0 0—Feb.	1866
6000 Timicot (cop., tin), Pool, Illogan [S.E.]	9 0 0..	15 1/2	..	..	510 10 0..	7 0 0—Jan.	1866
6000 West Bassett (copper), Illogan [S.E.]	10 0 0..	15 1/2	..	..	18 1 0..	1 0 0—Jan.	1866
3000 W. Chiverton (d.), Illogan [S.E.]	79	..	..	..	26 14 0..	0 5 0—July	1865
512 Wheal Bassett (copper), Illogan [S.E.]	3 2 6..	90	160 170..	449 0 0..	4 0 0—Feb.	1866
1024 Wheal Exmouth (lead), Chiswic.	20 0 0..	—	..	..	2 0 0..	0 2 6—Oct.	1865
6295 Wheal Kitty (tin), St. Agnes.	5 4 6..	3 1/2	..	..	299 0 0..	1 0 0—May	1865
1024 Wh. Mary Ann (d.), Menheniot [S.E.]	8 0 0..	—	..	..	57 17 0..	0 10 0—Mar.	1866
2000 Wheal Rose (copper), Scorrier.	16..	..	..	..	1 0 0..	0 10 0—Feb.	1866
396 Wheal Seton (tin, copper), Camborne.	58 10 0..	215	..	..	221 20 10..	5 0 0—Jan.	1866
1040 Wh. Trellawny (sil.-lead), Liskeard [S.E.]	5 17 0..	16..	..	..	63 5 6..	0 12 6—Dec.	1865
7000 Wicklow (copper) [L.]	2 10 0..	20 1/2	..	..	15 11 0..	0 0 0—Nov.	1865

* Dividends paid every two months.

† Dividends paid every three months.

BRITISH MINES WITH DIVIDENDS IN ABEYANCE.

Shares.	Mines.	Paid.	Last Pr.	Business.	Total divs.	Per Share.	Last Call.
1200 Alderley Edge (cop.), Cheshire [L.]	10 0 0..	—	..	..	11 3 0..	0 15 0—Dec.	1864
3000 Bedford United (copper), Tavistock.	2 6 8..	—	..	..	12 11 6..	0 2 6—Oct.	1864
1248 Boscowell (tin, copper), St. Just.	6 15 0..	—	..	..	1 5 0..	0 5 0—May.	1865
240 Boscoen (tin), St. Just.	20 10 0..	—	..	..	36 10 0..	1 0 0—Mar.	1865
1600 Brixham Hematite Iron [L. £20.]	6 7 6..	—	..	..	0 8 0..	0 8 0—Nov.	1865
266 Cardourrow (cop., tin), Illogan.	19 0 0..	—	..	..	280 10 0..	2 0 0—Jan.	1865
2450 Cook's Kitchen (copper), Illogan.	78 10 0..	—	..	..	85 0 0..	2 0 0—June	1865
1024 Copper Hill (copper), Redruth.	12 0 0..	5 1/2	..	..	1 7 0 0..	7 0 0—May	1865
4200 Copper Miners of England [2000 £paid, 40000 £paid 100 pd.]	—	—	..	..	2 7 6..	—	Sept. 1862
1058 Croddock Moor (copper), St. Cleer.	9 17 0 0..	—	..	..	—	—	—
12800 Drake Walls (tin, copper), Calstock.	2 1 0..	1	..	..	7 12 0..	0 4 0—June	1865
3000 Dymwyn (lead), Wales.	12 6..	—	..	..	0 18 0..	0 1 0—May	1865
512 East Bassett (cop.), Redruth [S.E.]	29 10 0..	22	..	..	126 0 0..	1 0 0—Nov.	1864
128 East Pool (tin, copper), Pool, Illogan.	24 8 0..	500	..	..	369 10 0..	4 0 0—June	1864
940 Fowey Consols (copper), Twardreath.	4 15 0..	—	..	..	41 9 3..	0 5 0—June	1864
118 Great Worth (tin), Germoe.	100 0 0..	—	..	..	15 0 0..	5 0 0—Aug.	1864
10240 Gunnislake (Clifters' Adit) (copper).	4 3 0..	4 1/2	..	..	0 3 0..	0 1 0—Mar.	1865
3000 Maces-y-Sam (lead) [L.]	20 0 0..	—	..	..	1 0 0..	1 0 0—Oct.	1864
640 Mount Pleasant (lead), Mold.	4 0 0..	—	..	..	18 18 1..	0 7 0—Aug.	1862
4000 Myndy (iron ore), L. £20. [S.E.]	3 0 0..	—	..	..	0 17 6..	0 2 0—Jan.	1863
250 Nanty Mines (lead), Montgomery.	20 0 0..	—	..	..	0 4 0..	0 2 0—April	1864
5000 Osred (lead), Finsbury.	0 0 8..	—	..	..	7 0 0..	1 0 0—June	1864
1772 Polberrow (tin), St. Agnes.	15 0 0..	—	..	..	0 10 4..	0 8 0—Mar.	1862
512 Polbreen (tin), St. Agnes.	8 0 0..	—	..	..	7 19 6..	0 10 0—Nov.	1862
6000 Rosewall Hill and Ransom United.	8 8 6..	1	..	..	1 0 0..	1 0 0—July	1863
512 South Tolquis (cop.), Redruth.	9 10 0..	5	6	..	10 10 0..	1 0 6—June	1865
458 Wh. Francis (cop.), Illogan [S.E.]	18 0 0..	22 1/2	..	..	74 10 0..	1 0 0—May	1862
4000 St. Day United (tin), Redruth.	14 0 0..	63..	..	..	370 18 6..	0 0 0—Nov.	1863
940 St. Ives Consols (tin), St. Ives.	8 15 0..	61/2	..	..	0 5 0..	0 5 0—Mar.	1862
572 Trelyon Consols (tin), St. Ives.	15 10 0..	—	..	..	490 10 0..	0 10 0—May	1864
1000 Trumpet Consols (tin), near Helston.	11 10 0..	—	4 6	..	7 0 0..	0 10 0—Sept.	1864
256 Vigrana and Clogau (copper) [L. £5.]	5 0 0..	—	..	..	11 0 0..	2 0 0—Mar.	1860
256 West Damson (copper), Gwennap.	7 0 0 0..	—	..	..	6 2 6..	1 10 0—Mar.	1862
1000 West Bassett (tin), Illogan [S.E.]	7 0 0..	6 1/2	..	..	53 10 0..	1 0 0—Nov.	1864
1024 Wheal King (tin), U. Lelant [S.E.]	3 0 6..	—	..	..	3 0 0..	0	